

MEETS GALWAY'S LONG-FELT WANT—MATCH-PRACTICE

BY DES KEEGAN
THE Leinster Council will surely have earned the gratitude of hurling enthusiasts everywhere by their bold and progressive invitation to Galway to contest the eastern province's championship. On the surface at least, it would appear to be the ideal solution to a problem which has been scourging



Murray, in the Cork defence, fields securely and stems Kildare attacks, touring party last May.

Think Now Of Gallant ANTRIM

ing the minds of all those to whom the game is dear. Galway's gallantry in the face of adversity through the years has earned them a "sentimental" support which, added to that of their legion of followers, makes them one of the most popular sides in the land.

New Glamour

The move, should it reach fruition, will have beneficial effects all round for not only will it provide the Corrib men with their long-felt want—match practice—but will also add considerably to the challenge to Munster's undisputed reign

Good News For Limerick

LIMERICK football is on the upgrade at last. More good news for the wearers of the green and gold is that Kerry footballer, Tom Costelloe, has purchased a farm at Croagh and may figure in the Rathkeale colours shortly. Tom helped the Kingdom win the '55 All-Ireland and was a member of the New York touring party last May.

as the king-pins of hurling.

This, in itself, will give the game everywhere a "shot in the arm". The Leinster championship will claim a glamour previously reserved for the Southern province for a fully fit and tested Galway side in the North, for one feels that should such a course be open to the Glensmen, the opportunity would be eagerly availed of—also with beneficial results to all concerned.

will call for much extra effort from such as Wexford, Kilkenny and such temporary outsiders as Dublin, Laoighis and other counties whose approach to the top is being watched with eager anticipation. Then too, it will provide followers of the game in some of the weaker counties with an opportunity of seeing such brilliant performers as Johnny Molloy, Mickey Burke, Joe Salmon, Billy Duffy and Tommy Boland in action, which seems a surefire way of spreading the game's popularity.

The Glensmen

For too long Galway have had to suffer a fate which their love and enthusiasm for the game certainly did not warrant and all because their side was "pitched" into a battle they were ill-prepared for.

As far as the inter-provincial series is concerned, the position is not yet clear but consider the mighty array of talent available to the Leinster selectors should they be available to call on the westeners.

One wonders if this solution might also apply to those other gallant standard-bearers, Antrim

Gallant Display Of O'Neill Countymen

BY D. J. KELLY

BRAVO Tyrone Those sentiments must surely echo throughout the length and breadth of the land following on the gallant display of the O'Neill Countymen in their first-ever semi-final appearance when they went under by the narrow margin of two points to the highly rated Galway side.

True, a team that can lower Cavan's colours to the tune of 3-5 to 0-4 in an Ulster final must be good, but when one considers the awesome experience of playing before a typical Croke Park All-Ireland semi-final attendance, one must then realise that these Tyrone boys are made from stern stuff indeed.

A Little Luck?

While it is true that the Northerners succumbed to the better team, on the day's display, it is equally true that Tyrone, with the aid of a little luck, might well have captured the honours, or at least, earned the right of a second attempt.

Consider what might have been had Iggy Jones's parting effort earned the rich reward that his dazzling run merited midway through the second half and then too, what a fit Mick Cushman might have achieved to gain them vital midfield parity!

Cushman's defection was a sore blow indeed and all the more galling when it is remembered that it was the brilliant midfielder's great enthusiasm for the game that resulted in his untimely withdrawal.

What Of 1957?

Cushman, it will be recalled, was one of the stars of his county's great win over Monaghan, at Lurgan, in the Ulster semi-final but before the cheers had died down on that memorable day Mick was on his way home to help his club, with little thought that this, his second game in one day, was to have such unhappy consequences. Certainly the semi-final proved that Thady Turbett, Jim Devlin

and Sean Donnelly are as brilliant performers in their respective positions as you will find in the country to-day.

Turbett and Cavan's Seamus Morris have been Ulster's top goalkeepers for some years past but while Morris earned provincial honours in 1956, the pendulum has surely swung and there seems little doubt but that 1957 will be the Tyrone man's year.

Superb Display

At 28, Jim Devlin has performed a task that many had thought beyond him for without in any way belittling the Tyrone man's reputation, it had been generally agreed that no full back in the country could curb Galway's wily Frank Stockwell.

Well curb him the Coalisland man indeed did but in a manner which, without reflecting on the Corribman's prowess, added immeasurably to Devlin's stature.

Sean Donnelly has been in and out of the Tyrone team with almost monotonous regularity, but after his superb display against the Connacht champions, there seems little doubt but that the Omagh man has not only finally made the position his own but must surely be favourably considered by the Ulster selectors.

Pitted against Eyrecourt's able Billy O'Neill, young Donnelly fielded, cleared and defended with rare grandeur and his display throughout that unforgettable hour coupled with his equally impressive performance in the Ulster decider against Cavan, stamps him as a right half back second to none.

They were but three, however, of that gallant Tyrone fifteen and if one were but to reflect on the stirring resistance of such as Brian McSorley, Paddy Corey or John Joe O'Hagan or the scintillating approach of Jody O'Neill, Iggy Jones or Frankie Donnelly, the conclusion would be that the highest honours of the game are well within Tyrone's grasp. Perhaps next year will see that thought gratified.



Des Marren, Kildare goalkeeper, clears under pressure from Cork forwards Kelleher, Murphy and Creedon. Clarke (No. 4) also comes to the rescue.

G.A.A.

ALL-IRELAND FINALS

tomáint—23/9/56; peit—7/10/56.

ḞÓΣΡΑ

Since the Stand Tickets for both All-Ireland Finals are distributed in quota fashion to the County Committees, there will not be any Tickets available from Head Office, and, consequently, applications for such cannot be entertained.

Áḡḡ Rúnáí.
Sínté: ḡḡḡḡ ḡ ḡḡḡḡ.

In Three Finals In One Day

DUAL Kerry stars, Kilmoyley clubmates, Sean Lovett and Tom Collins, captured a pair of Munster championship medals each at Killarney recently, when Kerry beat Waterford in the hurling and football finals. In the hurling game these lads were the Kingdom's match winners and both received a great ovation when they lined out in the tie. So well did the burly Tom Collins play in the junior football final that he caught the eye of the senior selectors and was called upon at the very last minute to wear the number 20 jersey, when Kerry encountered Cork in the replayed Munster final. When Mick Murphy retired injured, Tom went in as a sub midway through the second half, and so has the unique distinction of having played in three Munster finals in one day.

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SEAN O'CALLAGHAN'S PAGE

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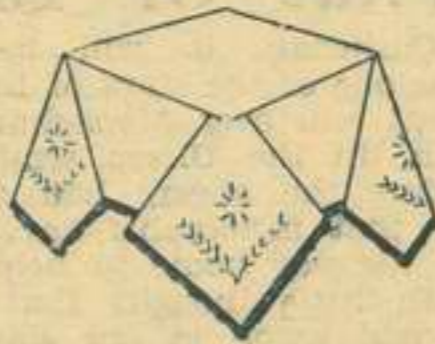
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THE month of September is set aside for four of the most important championship engagements of the year, the All-Ireland senior and minor finals in hurling and football.

Unfortunately this year, owing to an outbreak of polio in Cork, the Central Council has deemed it necessary to alter the usual order of events, and to make re-arrangements.

The contestants for the "McCarthy Cup" All-Ireland senior hurling final, will be Wexford (holders) versus Cork, and in minor—Tipperary (All-Ireland champions) versus Kilkenny.

When it comes to football, this year's final will see the second half of the Cork representation in action, when their footballers meet Galway, the new Connacht champions.

NEW DATES

The revised All-Ireland championships programme now reads as follows:—

September 9—All-Ireland junior hurling home final.

September 16—All-Ireland junior football home final.

September 23—All-Ireland senior hurling and minor hurling finals.

September 30—All-Ireland junior hurling final (to be played in London).

October 7—All-Ireland senior football and minor football finals.

October 14—All-Ireland junior football final—venue in Ireland.

NEW CHAMPIONS

1956 has surely proved a most remarkable year. At this period in 1955 everyone was discussing the merits and de-merits of the four All-Ireland contenders, Kerry or Cavan, Dublin or Mayo. That was after the two wonderful drawn games. Now in less than a year all four have disappeared from the horizon, new champions have stepped on the scene and I have no hesitation in stating, that not one of those who have replaced them, could worthily wear their mantles.

SOME REMARKABLE FACTS

Some notable facts regarding the All-Ireland championships are worthy of inclusion in this article. Only three times in the history of the association, have the All-Ireland senior championships, hurling and football, been won by a county in the same year. Once by Cork in 1890, and twice by Tipperary in 1895 and 1900. My reason for stating this fact, is due to Cork being engaged in both finals.

Tipperary are the only county to win three All-Ireland finals in the same year; that was in 1930 when they captured all three hurling titles.

Since the start of the association only seven counties have succeeded in winning All-Ireland senior honours in both hurling and football.

They are, Cork 19 hurling and 3 football titles, Dublin 15 football and 6 hurling titles, Tipperary 16 hurling and 4 football, Kerry 18 football and 1 hurling, Limerick 6 hurling and 2 in football, Wexford 5 football and 2 hurling, Galway 3 football and 1 hurling.

So it will be seen at a glance that of the counties contesting this year's finals, all have won previously.

Another fact worthy of recording is, only two counties, Dublin and Tipperary, have succeeded in winning All-Irelands in the three grades, senior junior and minor.

HOW THEY STAND

The All-Ireland senior football championship was first won by Limerick in 1887, and the 1955 final by Kerry.

68 finals have been played, Kerry winning 18, and Dublin next with a total of 15.

Kerry, Dublin, and Wexford, are the only counties to win three titles in succession. Dublin, however, did this on three occasions, 1897, 98 and 99 and again in 1906-7 and 8, and for the third and last time in 1921-22 and 23.

While Kerry also had a three years run of victories to their credit, in 1939-40 and 41. They shared with Wexford the unique distinction of winning four in a row. Wexford accomplished this feat in the years 1915, 16-17 and 18, while Kerry's peak period was 1929-30, 31 and 32. The trophy for the All-Ireland senior football championship is the "Sam McGuire Cup" and is Gaeldom's greatest prize.

MCGUIRE AND MARKHAM

The cup was presented to Central Council, by a representative body of men, all of whom were associated with the late Sam McGuire, a great Irishman from Cork.

He gave a life long service as a player and official in London. Furthermore, he rendered unfold

service as well to the cause of Irish Independence, during the days of the struggle. Kildare have the honour of having their names first inscribed in 1928.

Strange to say the "Tom Markham Cup," which is the trophy for the All-Ireland minor football championship, was presented to the Central Council in 1940, on somewhat similar lines.

Earlier that year a committee was formed in Dublin and held their meetings in Cavendish House. The late Tom Markham was a Clareman and held high rank in the Civil Service. He too was actively engaged in the struggle for freedom and many of his old associates rallied to the call for a memorial.

I had the honour of being appointed as secretary of the committee.

Tom Markham and myself were very close friends, and, I daresay, that's why I was chosen as secretary.

Tom Markham did more than his share for the youth of Dublin. He ran St. Ethines Hurling Club, and Desmond's Football Club. Desmond's won the Dublin minor championship in 1930, and his son, Tommy Markham, captained the team that won that year's All-Ireland for Dublin.

THEIR FIRST VICTORY

It was in the light of his work amongst the minors that prompted the committee to present the cup bearing his name. The first winners were Roscommon in 1941. Since then, Kerry, Armagh, Tyrone, Galway and Dublin have held it in turn.

Dublin, in fact, are holders for the past two years.

WEXFORD v CORK

When Wexford and Cork line out for this year's All-Ireland senior hurling final, it will be a repeat of the 1954 final. On that occasion Cork beat Wexford 1-9 to 1-6, and that success gave Cork their 19th title and Christy Ring his 8th All-Ireland medal. The attendance on that occasion was 84,856.

There is to my mind a little bit of a difference on this occasion. That matter of 1955 when Wexford hurlers overlooked defeats and disappointments and beat Galway 3-13 to 2-8, to become the new

champions.

Therefore, the 1954 position is reversed, Wexford are now the title holders, and Cork are the challengers.

Wexford had to undergo more set backs than any county in Ireland so far as hurling is concerned. They were up against two major problems in Dublin and Kilkenny; it was either one or the other, in Leinster. In the two previous years, 1954 and '53, they had been thwarted by Tipperary and Cork in turn. They gained their reward last year, and that after 45 years of earnest endeavour. When Wexford take the field on this occasion there will be no inferiority complex.

All Wexford require is a fair field, an even break, and no quarter given or asked. They can take all that's offered and reply in kind.

Are they as good as last year? My answer is yes. Are they going back? No signs yet. How come that they were so hard pressed by Kilkenny in the Leinster final?

LEINSTER FINAL THE TEST

Any county, whether it be Wexford, Kilkenny or Dublin, who are all hard pressed to win. Since Wexford appeared on the scene for the past five years, Leinster finals are harder to be won than ever.

Last year it took two games to decide the issue, and Wexford won in the end. This year one game was required and everyone in Leinster knows well that Kilkenny were a vastly different side to what they were in 1955.

THE TYPE TO WIN BATTLES

Wexford have the team and the type of men they require.

The same men as won last year against Galway. Maybe they might have a change or two, maybe not.

I do not for one moment propose to mention one name of the Wexford side, if I did I would probably have to mention all of them, starting with Art Foley and ending with Nick Rackard. Rather would I say that we in Leinster pin our faith to the men drawn from the ribbed flanks of the Blackstairs, from Slaney sides, Slieve Coillthe, and Castlebridge.

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(By "SIDELINE")

MAKING a personal appearance on our pages, after one of its most successful years ever, is the all-conquering camogie team from University College, Galway, winners of the Ashbourne Cup, and also Galway County Champions, 1956.

The epic climax to the Inter-Varsity Championships has already been recounted, when Galway, having been eight points in arrears, made a magnificent come-back to defeat the holders, U.C.D., by one solitary point in the final. This was literally "the beginning of the end" for all ambitious camogie teams in the West, for, having once tasted the wine of victory, there was no stopping those students.



FRONT ROW (left to right)—M. Stewart, D. Gardiner, M. McVann, R. McGrath, M. Sherlock, M. Beatty, J. Fallon. BACK ROW (left to right)—E. Horgan, B. O'Sullivan, M. Culklin, O. Flanagan, M. Arnold, M. McSweeney, S. O'Donoghue, P. Lyons.

They affiliated in the County Championships and won comfortably through the qualifying rounds to reach the final.

Further difficulties now arose, as the final proper with Oranmore could not be played until late in May, a time when examinations were pressing heavily, and training was virtually neglected. However, experience and their new-found confidence (following their big win) proved superior to speed and determination, and after an exciting encounter U.C.G. were declared county champions, again by the margin of one point. This match attracted considerable interest in the county as it brought into opposition U.C.G. on the one hand, Ashbourne champions, anxious to preserve their unbeaten record and add another trophy to their collection, and on the other, Oranmore, then present County Champions, simply "bursting" to have a victory over such famous opponents to their credit. However, the team which humbled the might of Cork, Dublin and Belfast would not allow itself to taste defeat in its own county, and the magnificent silver trophy joined the Ashbourne Cup.

Looking Through The Names

The girls themselves came from a variety of counties—Galway, Clare, Kerry, Cork, Kilkenny, Longford, Sligo, and even Donegal—and were ably led by Rose McGrath (now with B.A., B.Comm., H.Dip. attached). Looking through team lists, we find such familiar names as Siobhan O'Donoghue (daughter of Vincent, last President of the G.A.A.), Dymna Gardiner, daughter of Tom, who represented Clare and Munster with distinction as a footballer, and niece of Seamus Gardiner, also a former President of the G.A.A. Another stalwart, Minnie MacSweeney, has for an uncle none else than "Big Jim" Hurley of Cork fame.

Ashbourne Medals

The Cup is figuring prominently in the above photograph, but the Ashbourne medals, which can be seen on the girls' gym frocks, were more coveted still. They are a magnificent piece of workmanship, consisting of a silver bar, on which the crests of the four universities have been laid, in full colour and with a clarity that has to be seen to be believed.

The medals are a fitting prize to a truly magnificent team.

A special word of praise must be given to Paddy Higgins, who trained the team. Paddy is, of course, well known in Gaelic circles, having distinguished himself during his own playing career and later in directing Galway football and hurling teams to victory. He became completely immersed in his camogie team, and after long hours of lecturing, encouraging and correcting their faults, moulded them into the first-class combination they now are.

Wicklow Pin Their Hopes On Youth

BY SEAMUS O CROITHE

YOUTH must be served. This is the maxim in the Garden County where virile juvenile committees have been in existence for some years back. Yes, Wicklow is particularly well served in the under age grades and results just must come in the years ahead.

Unlike most other counties Wicklow have no large-scale colleges, and the training of youth in the National game is mostly a job for the enthusiastic lay-men who give their time and experience in running leagues, championships and competitions. The Christian Brothers at Greystones, the De La Salle Brothers at Wicklow and the Order of John of God at Kilcrony certainly do play their part and are always shining lights in Wicklow's juvenile activities.

The lack of training places like Knockbeg, St. Mels, St. Finians and such colleges is a handicap often forgotten by the people who ask "Why do Wicklow not go further?" Well if Wicklow don't go further in the years ahead it won't be the fault of the men who manage the juvenile grades. They are trying to spread hurling and football to every parish.

The Man Behind The Movement

Backbone behind the movement is the Annacuna man, Co. secretary Seamus Kavanagh. He has achieved much success since he took over the role of secretary but he has one big complaint to make. He says: "The adult clubs do not give the necessary support to the juveniles, they will go distances to see so-called big games which would not compare with the thrills provided by the boys."

County chairman, Paddy Murphy the Arklow national teacher, is another grand supporter of the teenagers. District secretaries, Tommy O'Neill, Dunlavin; Frank Kearney, Kilcoole, and Rev. Bro. Augustine, De La Salle, complete the main body of officials but such as Pat Kinsella, Arklow; Jack Sutton, Kilmacanogue; Jerry McGrath, Killavane; Richard Barron, Baltinglass, and Martin Reilly, Hollywood, are also very prominent in advancing the juvenile games.

Youngsters On The Way Up

There are many promising youngsters on the way up in Wicklow. Baltinglass who won the minor football championship for the

past four years are particularly well served. Watch out for Ken Browne and Peter Timmins—both are well fancied to go places. Dunlavin have produced Harry Fay and "Doc" Laverty; the former has starred with Naas C.B.S. and having played with the junior county side is on the fringe of senior selection.

Killavane who won the under 16 championship three years back, have produced three more rising football stars. Tommy Carr starred with Annacurra in last year's senior final and has already made a league appearance with the county side. Tom Keogh, Knockanna's shining light, has played with the county juniors and seniors and is highly fancied to make the grade in a big way. Stephen Tompkins, another Knockanna youth, is also showing great promise.

In Arklow there are a host of prospective stars including the McCruddens, Scallan, Harte and Byrne, but unfortunately many like Brian Murray (the greatest of them all) follow the call of the sea or move out to foreign lands.

County Town Well Endowed

The county town under the able command of the De La Salle Brothers is also well endowed with youthful talent. Here again emigration and the sea play havoc with high hopes. Young Charlie Graham is worth watching while Cuffe and McGauley are also promising but the temporary absentee, Sean Barlow, looks the star of the lot.

Ashford are also well in the lime-light in the under age games. They have prospects above the ordinary in goalie John Kavanagh, Tom Delahunty and Sam Nevin. Over in the North the spotlight is on Roundwood at the moment. Two names that have set hopes on fire in the area are Sean and Paddy Malone—their father and uncle were Roundwood stars in the last generation.

Like Father Like Son

In Kilcoole it is Danny Byrne, already starring in senior ranks at 17 and it's another case of "like father—like son" for his father, Ned Byrne, saw honourable service in Wicklow's blue and gold.

Greystones folk look to youthful Johnny McKenzie as a bright hope for the future and Newtown Gaels have the same feeling about the up and coming Joe Doyle.

So it is all over the O'Dwyer County. Names like Peter Clarke Kilbride, Noel Scott, Baltinglass; Pat Sheridan, Enniskerry; Noel Doyle, Hollywood; Anthony Fitzpatrick, Vallemount; Denis White Kilmacanogue; Pat Cleary, Tina-hely; Mick Fleming, Blessington. These and many others provide the hope that "springs eternal" in the counties who have not yet got their names on the senior roll of honour. So Wicklow, through its well tutored youngsters, may advance quicker than most people think.



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Thoughts of a Gael

BY

Δη τ-Δελαη Τομάρ S. O Λάιηηη, S.C., M. Δ

PETER O'LEARY, whose name is forever linked with that of the great John MacHale, was born at Lios Caragain, County Cork, in the year 1839, and having got a good primary education in his own home from a Mother steeped in Gaelic traditional culture, he entered St. Colman's College, Fermoy, where after one year's study he matriculated for Maynooth in the year 1861. It is unnecessary here to describe in detail his life as a student in Maynooth, as in his own delightful autobiography, *Mo Seal Fein*, he devotes many interesting pages to his time at the College.

One date, however, is of vital importance to any note on O'Leary, though writers seldom trouble to mention it. It is the year 1862, when John MacHale, the great Archbishop of Tuam, charged O'Leary with neglecting his duty to the Irish Language. But, of that, more anon.

Before entering Maynooth, Peter O'Leary was deeply interested in all things Gaelic. With his entry came, unfortunately, disillusionment. Professors, the victims of their time, thought little of the native tongue; students considered its acquisition an obstacle to preferment, and so devoted themselves to the study of French and other continental languages. Small wonder, then, that O'Leary should waver in his devotion to such a useless study; no wonder that the jokes and taunts of fellow students cut deep into his sensitive nature, almost forcing him to quit learning Irish. Then came, what appeared to be final despondency, and with it the resolve to give up, for all time, the study of the Gaelic tongue. He read, somewhat, a statement by O'Curry to the effect that he (O'Curry) and his companions had decided to concentrate their study solely on old Irish for one reason: "in order to be able to preserve for posterity some interesting fragments of the language which might remain when the spoken language would have passed into decay." Why, if a scholar of O'Curry's standing was convinced of the ultimate decadence of the Irish language (and O'Curry, it should be remembered, wrote when Irish was the common language of four-fifths of the people of Ireland), why should he, a young student, think that it could be revived. Sensible conclusion, as the cynical Ireland of the time said. True, a Patrick Pearse might have thought otherwise: had not the foolish things of the world confounded the wise on many occasions? But O'Leary was no Pearse; no visionary he! And thus for a time—forever, it seemed to him—the Irish world of Peter O'Leary passed out of existence.

Then came Maynooth's prize day, 1862. For a moment, let us picture the scene. Bishops, Maynooth professors, priests, students have gathered together in the College's most capacious hall to listen to the prize-winners read their winning essays. Peter O'Leary had just finished reading his English Essay on Elizabethan Literature. Tumultuous applause greets his effort. As the hand-clapping dies away, the great Western Prelate, tall, stately, defiant, a true man of the people rises, and, to the consternation of some and the surprise of all, speaks words destined to bear fruit one hundred fold. He says: "You have done all that well, my boy. You have praised Greek and Roman learning; you have praised French, Spanish and German culture. Then you praised, very highly, English literature. But not one word did you speak about our own Irish literature!" Then the patriot-Bishop goes on to speak of the Irish language of the magnificent literature enshrined therein, older and nobler than all the others, and of the duty of a keen interest in Gaelic letters. . . . Needless to add John MacHale's outspoken language caused a sensation at the time; and pain too! But all great beginnings or renewals have their birth-pangs. And henceforth, O'Leary was to steer his course by the Star of the West, a star that would guide him safely through tempestuous seas to the bright and sparkling waters of a haven laden with rich literary merchandise.

Ordained priest in 1867, Father O'Leary worked for a time as Curate in Cill Seanaigh, near Mallow, then at Cill Uird, and in many other parishes before being appointed Parish Priest of Caislean I Liathain in the year 1891. This latter parish was to be the scene of his longest and greatest work, both as missionary priest and writer, as, apart from occasional vacations, he lived there uninterruptedly till his death in

1920. During those years, Fr. O'Leary was destined to carve for himself an indelible niche in the temple of Gaelic Literature.

As we saw in our last article, his greatest literary achievement was *Seadhna*, a story which set the standard for all subsequent Gaelic writing.

Father O'Leary's next great literary work was *Niamh*, a historical novel dealing with Brian Boramha and the Lochlannaigh. Of all the great scholar's works, *Niamh*, perhaps, has been the most adversely criticised. It was said that this novel, unlike Sir Walter Scott's historical novels, did not ring true to life. Pearse wrote: "It has the cardinal fault of being untrue, not merely to history, but to the historical vraisemblance." And Pearse was quite right. Nevertheless if we realise the backward position of Irish historical scholarship at the time (we had no Eoin Mac Neill or Paul Walsh in those days) we will readily pardon many of the inaccuracies in *Niamh*. Furthermore, if "we should read books for what is in them and not for what is out of them," as Goldsmith put it, then, indeed, we must concede that *Niamh* is really a very fine book. The story itself is well told, and the characters, for the most part, well drawn, while there are some really magnificent descriptions of scenes and events—as, for example, the memorable picture of the battlefield. There is, too, one passage in this novel which, had its author never written another line, would, I think, predestine him to an honoured place among our greatest writers. I refer to that much-quoted *Rosc Catha Bhriain*, a passage which for beauty and dexterity and force and power of diction has rarely been equalled by even the greatest masters of prose composition.

There was no branch of Gaelic Letters that O'Leary left untouched. He essayed poetry and drama, but with little success. Nevertheless, be it stated in letters of gold that he was the author of the very first drama that ever appeared in an Irish dress. His "*Tadhg Saor*," published in 1899, was, like his prose work, *Seadhna*, to be an inspiration, as it was the foundation, for dramatists greater than himself. He was a translator, too, Aesop's Fables, Caius Sallustius, Lucian, Imitatio Christi (a highly meritorious work), and the Bible, both Old and New Testaments—all followed in quick

succession from Father Peter's prolific pen.

In his translation of the Bible, O'Leary, as was his custom, used simple Gaedhealtacht Irish, but used it with an accuracy and deftness of touch peculiar to real genius. One example—chosen from amongst hundreds—will bear this out. He neatly turned: *multusque numerus credentium conversus est ad Dominum* thus: "Do hiompugheadh cuid mhor daoine chun creidimh an Tigherna." When questioned about the correctness of this translation, he wrote: "It is closer to the natural order of things than either the Latin or Greek. There is no sense in converting to the Lord people who have the faith."

Some there are—and an t-Athar de Brun is one, if we may judge from his article "*Ars Scribendi*" in *Humanitas*, and his *Beatha Iosa Croist*—who would profoundly disagree with Fr. O'Leary's method of Bible-Translation holding that a language, noble and literary, differing from *teanga na ndaoine*, is best suited to such a noble theme and more in accord with the dignity of the authors translated. But, for O'Leary, simplicity of language was everything. "And what," he would say, "what kind of language did Our Lord Himself normally use when addressing humble fishermen, a literary dialect, understood only by the few, or a simple easy one. And, I am not so sure that Fr. Browne's contention would withstand such keen rebuttal. Anyway, for myself, and I have read both *Biobla An Athar Peadar* (at least, that portion of it already published), and *Beatha Iosa Croist*, I must confess that O'Leary's language makes a greater appeal, seeming as it does to flow more smoothly and more intelligibly.

I conclude by summing up (1) Father O'Leary was the first great Irish Revival writer, his *Seadhna* setting the standard for all other prose works in Irish. (2) He was the pioneer of modern Irish dramatists, and so may be regarded as the inspirer of O'Kelly, Hyde and others. (3) His translations—particularly that of the Bible—have won him a high place among the greatest of Irish prose writers. (4) As a literary composer—a creator—he was not faultless, but as the most versatile and prolific writer of grammatically correct Irish, he holds place second only to that of Keating in the Literary History of the Irish Language.



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JUNIOR GAELS' PAGE



The Minor Provincial Champions

M. O DUBHGHAILL
YOU know how the 'as you were' result is anathema in any realm of sport. For the vanquished the pre-games consciousness, that it is a foregone conclusion no matter how well they perform in the opening rounds; that defeat is inevitable on encountering the heavier artillery in the provincial series; such pre-games' consciousness is certainly harmful.

Even for the victors, who go on year in year out, securing the spoils, their accomplishments must become at least monotonous, if not Dead Sea fruit.

And as for spectator interest, it is but in the nature of things that it should become dull and dead. Nothing so emblazoned the green sward of Croke Park as the appearance of new colours, carried by a team whose individual names we know only from official programmes.

THURLES DEBACLE
 Surely the disgruntled tone of our opening remarks is in order for the Munster minor hurling 1956 series. We did forecast a Tipperary victory, as you may remember, but in our moments of greatest pessimism we did not expect a debacle like that witnessed in Thurles. Scan the comments on this game in the sports' columns and you will concur.

Especially these: "Tipp. won their fifth Munster minor hurling title in succession when they outclassed Waterford, 10-10 to 4-4". All interest in the game had vanished before the interval.

Anois ta se thar am leigheas a lorg ar an sceal aineiseach seo. Mholamar, agus d'athmholamar, agus molfaimid aris, gur cheart an comndae seo a roint; agus dha fhuirinn a bheith acu do chraoibh na mionuiri. Ar fhaitios go mbeadh eagoir san toscrú sin, mior mhiste an beartas ceanna a chur i gciann ar Cho. Chorcaí.

Certainly here was wine of rare vintage, with Limerick holding on, like grim death, to a two points' lead against mighty Kerry, to secure their first ever minor Munster football title, 1-7 to 1-5. It did of course add more than somewhat to our enjoyment of this game, when it was the Davids of this traditionally hurling county who vanquished the Goliaths from the famed Kingdom nursery of football.

All the best of co-operation from Lady Luck to these Limerick boys in their semi-final encounter.

NOTHING OF THE KIND
 Our switch is of course from football to hurling, and from the provincial scene to the green sward of Croke Park. There on the last Sunday of July Kilkenny's minors won their way into the All-Ireland, defeating the Galway boys: 4-8 to 2-4.

Non-spectators may react to that double score tally, as if it reflects a runaway victory. Nothing of the kind! We were midway through the second half when two goals by right half forward, Molloy, made the issue safe for the Leinster champions.

To spotlight the thrills may we recall a sparkling display of accurate overhead and ground striking by the Kilkenny boys; the 'never put a foot wrong' display of their forward, Molloy, who contributed 3-2 to their total; the old incubus of all Galway sides—lack of match practice and consequently of team work, somewhat relieved by the artistic stickwork of individuals and in particular by left wing forward Lyons.

The overall impression of this minor curtain raiser and the subsequent swamping of the Galway senior side by Wexford, was rather depressing. If we gave voice to our depression we should say: when will these Galway teams have to earn their passage the hard way in-

to the All-Ireland series? The sooner the better for their sakes as well as for waning spectator interest.

DIMMED FINE MINOR DISPLAY

Presumably the shock of Tyrone's overwhelming defeat of provincial champions Cavan, more or less dimmed the very fine minor football display which preceded it, certainly crowded out accounts of that Donegal minor's victory over Armagh from the sports' columns.

We particularly relished this Donegal 2-5 to Armagh's 0-6 victory for a goodly number of reasons. We feel that their seniors got a somewhat raw deal in the early stages of the championship; and that this their minor victory may afford some compensation, such as it is. We feel too, that the Donegal seniors are an up and coming team; and are happy to conclude that, with a minor side Ulster champions, they will not suffer from any shortage of replacements.

Adh mor ar a bhfuirinn mionuiri seo, i gcluiche leathchraoibhe na hEireann.

PERSONALITY PARADE

(By MICHAEL O CADHLA)

Peter McDermott Meath

ONE of the most popular referees in Gaelic football at the moment is Meath's Peter McDermott, who only retired from inter-county football a short while ago.

A native of Cork, he learned his first football lessons in Meath. He showed great promise when he helped Rathfeigh to Minor Championship honours and afterwards played on the Donaghmore team that took the Intermediate title.

Peter wore the Meath jersey in minor and junior ranks and he was on the senior team that won the 1940 Leinster crown.

Well known in the G.A.A. world as "the man with the cap," he won a National League medal in 1946 and a further Leinster Championship medal in 1947. In 1951 he went with the Meath team to the Polo Grounds. He won All-Ireland medals in 1949 and in 1954. A fine, clean player, "the man with the cap" had the honour of being Secretary of the Meath County Board when he helped them beat Kerry in the 1954 All-Ireland.

Bright Star Of Roscommon

ROSCOMMON, like all other counties, has produced many fine footballers, and one of those stars who must come in for special mention is the fair-haired marvel, Jimmy Murray.

Long retired from the playing fields, his heart is still very much with the game he loves, and very soon he hopes to see the men from the West take home the Sam Maguire Cup once more.

As good sportsman as well as being a good footballer, he is an excellent leader of men and holds the unique honour of having skippered his county team in all their All-Ireland appearances. In the successes of '43 and '44, he played a captain's part and football fans will not readily forget the brilliant performances he gave in the two bouts with Kerry in 1946.

Jimmy possessed all the attributes of a good footballer. What a fine felder he was. His judgment was uncanny. It was a delight to watch his body swerve and his lengthy drives; to add to his football prowess, he had the ideal temperament for the big occasion.



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When Ireland Had World Beaters

BY P. D. MEHIGAN

THE approach of the 1956 World Olympics at Melbourne; the suspending of Ireland's National Athletic Association because they stood firm for an undivided Ireland in athletics; and the recent statement of England's Lord Burghley that there is no such place as "Ireland" in the athletic world—these facts remind us of the high place which Irish athletics once held in World Athletics. These wondermen, products of the Gaelic Athletic Association of Ireland, won worldwide fame in the field of amateur sport. Let us forget them I think it right to recall their great Olympic successes in the pages of the "Gaelic Echo."

In the decades at either side of the border-centuries (from 1890 to 1910) Irishmen held no fewer than fourteen world's records in amateur athletics. These products of the G.A.A. clubs and of the cross-road traditions in practising weight-throwing and jumping of all kinds, soon made their mark when organised athletics became a popular sport. I shall only concern the reader with the chief Olympic successes in this brief review of the halcyon period of Irish Athletics.

First To Score

First to score was the great John J. Flanagan of Kilbreedy farm, Kilmallock, Co. Limerick, son of the great athletic, Michael Flanagan, champion weight-thrower of his youth, a six feet two giant, John, one of six athletic brothers was not more than 5 feet 8 inches, but was built like a young Hercules from head to heel, Sprinter, jumper and all-round weight-thrower, he won many titles before concentrating in the hammer. He went to America early in life and soon was breaking world-records in his favourite event. Selected in the American team at the Olympic games of 1900, John Flanagan got first place in the 16lbs. Hammer (167 feet, 4 ins.) to open his wonderful Olympic career. Four years later he held his title at the Olympic games held in St. Louis in 1904 with an improved distance of 168 feet, 1 inch, beating all the world's best. Flanagan continued to break world records and at London in 1908, he won the World's Athletic Championship for the third time—a performance yet to be equalled by an amateur athlete. For such specialised event, the winning of three Olympic titles with four years spacing, is an achievement which may never be equalled.

The Grecian Government promoted a special commemorative revival of their Ancient Olympic's in 1906 and teams from all leading countries sent representative teams. Two Irishmen competed—Con Leahy of Cregane, Charleville, won the high jump and Peter O'Connor of Waterford won the world's hop-step and jump title with good performances under difficult conditions. Both O'Connor and Leahy won scores of Irish and English championships; the great Cregane family of seven brothers were a remarkable lot of champions and Peter O'Connor held the long jump world's record at 24 feet 11 inches for 25 years until it was beaten by the coloured Americans Guerin and Owens.

The Mighty Matt McGrath

Martin Sheridan, a stalwart Mayoman from Bohola, did all his public athletics in America for which country he won many Olympic titles in the discus and javelin. Sheridan, a winner of the World's All-Round record in 1907 was Olympic Champion with the

discus in 1906 (Athen's special), St. Louis 1904 and London 1908. Then came the great Nenagh man, mighty Matt McGrath who took the world's record for the hammer in succession to John Flanagan, and when competing for America won the Olympic Hammer Championship with new Olympic figures of 179 feet 4 1/2 inches in 1912. Matt held a dozen American titles in all manner of weight events.

Meanwhile, the London celebration of 1908 had seen the success of another Nenagh-born man, John J. Hayes, in the Olympic marathon, whilst T. J. Ahearne of Athea, Co. Limerick (competing for Britain) won the hop-step and leap championship at 48 feet 11 1/2 inches. It was in 1912 at Stockholm that big Pat McDonald of Clare won the shot (competing for America) and returned after the first world war to win again at Antwerp in 1920—general 20 stone Pat McDonald. And the Antwerp celebration of 1920 saw another young Irish Giant appear—the 6 foot 2 Limerick man, Pat Ryan of Pallasgreen, who not alone won the Olympic hammer throw with 173 feet 5 1/2 inches, but set up new world figures in America with the fine throw of 189 feet 5 1/2 inches—figures that stood for many years.

O'Callaghan And Tisdall

Last of all came the versatile Duhallow (Co. Cork) man, Dr. Pat O'Callaghan who led the world at Amsterdam in 1928 when winning the Olympic championship with 168 feet 7 1/2 inches. Then last of all came that great week at Los Angeles in 1932 when not alone did O'Callaghan retain his title (176 feet 8 1/2 inches), but the great all-rounder Bob Tisdell of Nenagh (both competing for N.A. & C.A. Ireland, raised the tricolour to the masthead for the 1/4 miles hurdle which he won in 52 and three-fifths secs—a new world's record.

So ends our glorious Olympic story to date. For a tragic athletic dispute arose, result of the accursed foreign-imposed border—a dispute from which Irish athletics never recovered and more's the pity:—"Those healthy sports of youth and pride, The sports our fathers loved to grace— On foreign fields and home fire-sides, Their fame brought joy, to land and race."

—"Carbery"

London Calling

BY EAMÓN LEAHY.

THE Annual Foundation Mass for Commandant Reginald Dunne, Volunteers Joseph O'Sullivan and Michael McInerney was celebrated at the Church of Corpus Christi on Sunday, August 19th. Many members and friends of the old I.R.A. and Cumann na mBan were in were and Cumann na mBan were in attendance.

PRESENTATION OF FAINNE

Among those presented with the Fainne recently were Sean Baker B.M. of Co. Clare and Padraig O'Sullivan of Kerry.

GAELIC LEAGUE

A Gaelic Choir is to be formed shortly by the Gaelic League. Chosen for the task of conducting is Jim Purcell of Kilkenny a well-known chorist and authority on music.

How Can You Buy Killarney?

Answer: With Star-Spangled Dollars. The sale of the Killarney estate has been in the Top Two, being led by Suez by one knot.

Surprisingly enough, England seems very perturbed at its sale to an American. A London Evening paper boasted a cartoon on its issue of the fourteenth of August depicting the Twenty-Six Counties being towed away by a barge bearing the "Stars and Stripes". I think they were ashamed to let us see the Six Counties. The obvious reason being the fact that a pirate ship with the Union Jack had already towed them away without dollars or sterling.

CEILI

Among the many visitors to the Gaelic League Ceili of late were a group of students from Venice, who have attended throughout their stay in London and were high in their praise of Irish music and culture displayed at the the Ceilithe.

G.A.A. NEWS

Back in London after a very successful tour of Ireland are the St. Monica's Senior Football team. Their Secretary, Seamus Mcinnity felt very pleased with their successes in the homeland. They defeated St. Vincent's (Meath) at Ardcaith and Butlins Camp team at Mosney. Clontibret O'Neills was the spanner in their victory WHIRL, Contibret team boasted five Inter-County footballers in P. and F. McQuaid, Joe Smith, John Rice and Hughie McKearney.

A reception was held for both teams in Knockatallon Hall. St. Monica's faced a good Round Towers team and defeat by four points in the 1955 League immediate on return to London.

RESULTS

1955 League—Round Towers 3-7, St. Monica's 3-4.
Senior Football Championship—St. Patrick's 3-4, St. Mel's 1-2.

SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Galtymore had an easy win over Cu Chulainn in the Senior Football Championship game at New Eltham on Aug., 18th.

GALT YMORE 2-3, CU CHULAINN 0-1. OIREACHTAS GOLD MEDAL WINNER

A distinguished Irish traditional singer Seamus O'Duffy from

Achadh Mor, Co. Mayo is at present on holidays here, Seamus who is a teacher in Carrigallen, Co. Leitrim, won the Comhaltas Ceoiltoiri Eireann Cup in three successive years. He is now chairman of An Comhaltas.

G.A.A. RESULT

In the Senior Hurling League game Brian Boru's, scoring at ease, had a decisive victory Naomh Muire.

OBJECTION TO MISSA SOLEMNIS

Fear of objections from non-Catholics has been the factor in Sir Thomas Beecham's decision to play Beethoven's Choral Symphony at the opening of the Edinburgh Festival. His intention was to play the Missa Solemnis, but the Queen of England's attendance at the opening brought forth objections from many sources to this piece. Some papers went so far as to canonise Sir Thomas and substitute Saint for Sir.

ALL IRISH CONCERT

The Sinn Fein Social Committee have arranged an all-Irish concert for October 12th, which will include an Irish Drama, songs and dances of the Gael.

REQUESCAT IN PACE HIS EMINENCE, CARDINAL GRIFFIN.

The death occurred suddenly on August 20th of His Eminence, Cardinal Bernard W. Griffin, 57 year-old Archbishop of Westminster.

A great friend of the Irish by whom he was much loved and respected, Cardinal Griffin's affection will long be remembered.

Born in Birmingham, the son of a cycle dealer, he was appointed Archbishop of Westminster in 1943. Ar Dheis De go raibh a anam.

CASEMENT REMEMBERED

A large group of Irishmen and women, headed by the Sinn Fein Colour Party and City of London Pipers Band, paraded from King's Cross Station to Pentonville Prison where a wreath was laid on the grave of Roger Casement.

A decade of the Rosary was recited in Irish outside the prison walls by Partholan O'Connell after which an oration was given by Sinn Fein.

Death Of Gael

THE death occurred suddenly at his residence, 68, Grantley St., Stepney, of Daniel Hannigan Dan, as he was known to all his friends, was a native of Cork and was educated at the Christian Brothers Schools, Sullivan's Quay. In his early youth he played with the Evergreens Nationals Hurling Club. In London, he was at one time a member of the Self-Determination League and the Gaelic League. His remains were removed to St. Patrick's Cemetery, Leytonstone after Requiem Mass at the Church of the Guardian Angels.

Ar Dheis De go Raibh a anam.

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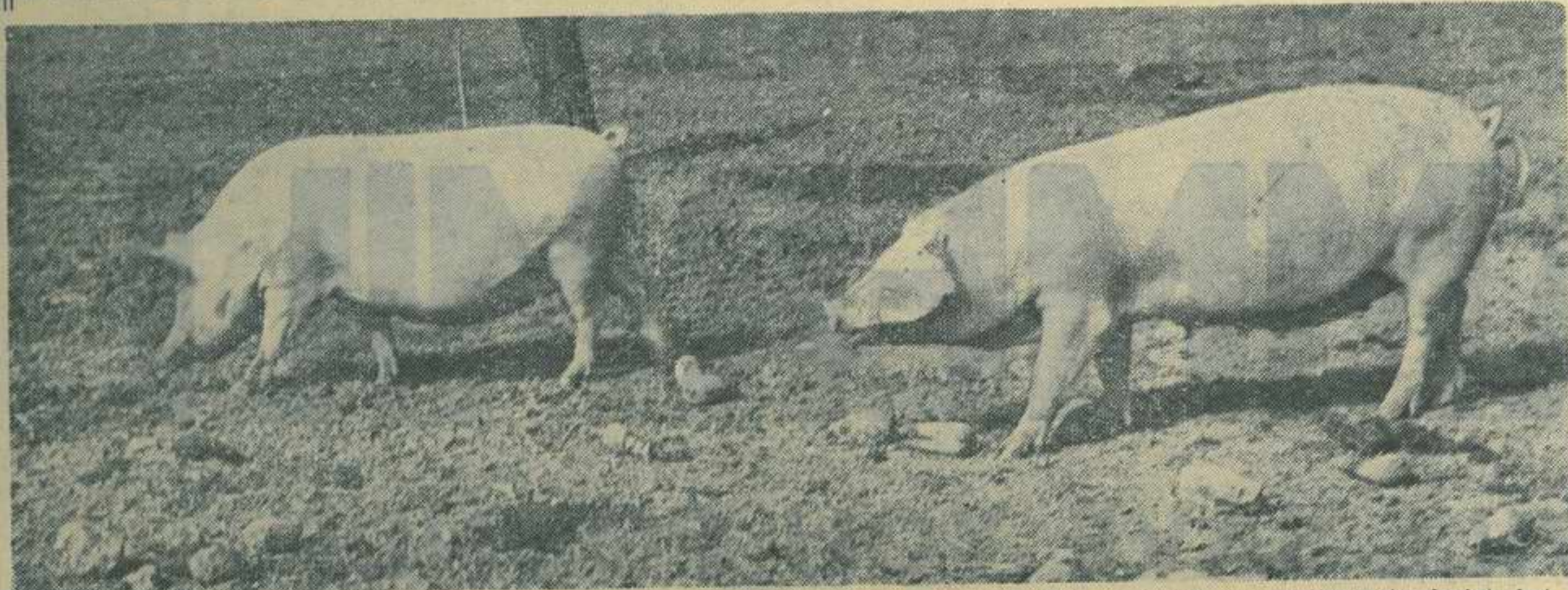
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WHICH OF THESE TWO PIGS WOULD YOU CHOOSE?



IN the picture above are two sows. The one on the left is easily recognised; she is a Large White, the only breed of pig permitted within the Republic at present.

The one on the right is a Landrace. You can see how very much lighter she is in the forequarters, longer in the back, neater along the belly and yet heavier in the hams. There are all the points that are wanted nowadays for the modern taste in bacon and ham. The days of thick fat bacon and slabs of dripping sow-belly are gone, and for years our commercial pig-breeders have been trying to develop a Large White bacon pig with a conformation similar to that of the Landrace. Carcasses of this sort rate "Grade A" at the factory, and are paid for at a higher price.

Black Spot Is A Heinous Offence

For some time Irish bacon producers have had much difficulty in reaching "Grade A" standards

with their pigs. The "show" type of Large White does not lend itself well to the modern style of bacon—long, lean and streaky. Our pig-men have looked longingly across the sea to Scandinavia, where the Danes and the Swedes have bred a type of pig specifically for the purpose of producing lean bacon for the British market—the Landrace breed.

The Department of Agriculture, however, does not view the Landrace in the same light as the commercial farmers. It has been the policy of the Department for a very long time to allow only one breed of pig in the Republic—the Large White. Even the least little black spot on a pig in the Twenty-Six Counties is a heinous offence. Therefore, the proposal to import the Scandinavian Landrace pig was not given an enthusiastic welcome by the "powers-that-be."

It was argued that the Landrace breed is liable to suffer from a certain pig disease not known in Ireland—Atrophic Rhinitis; that animal health was the foremost consideration and that the risk of

importing another disease along with the new type of pig outweighed its advantages.

Modern Bacon Requirements

Some Irish pig-keepers did not agree with the Department. Our pig industry, they said, was failing badly simply because we had the wrong type of pig for modern bacon requirements. The Large White could not produce a high percentage of "Grade A" carcasses. They wanted to try the Landraces—so they smuggled them in.

At Lucan District Court last month, a farmer, T. J. McElligott, was prosecuted for having an unlicensed Landrace boar, and up and down the country other pig keepers have been watching the case with intense interest.

Mr. McElligott stated that for years he had been pigkeeping with Pedigree Large Whites. He had acquired a boar from the Albert College, but the resultant progeny when fed to bacon weight only graded three per cent. Grade A. His income from pigs fell fast, even though he had followed all the Department's regulations and advice about housing and feeding. He stated that the position had become so serious with him that he felt he was being forced out of the pig business.

So he procured a Landrace boar from the North. The cross-bred pigs from the Landrace boar made all the difference; seventy per cent of them graded "A." His pig-keeping business once again became profitable.

Last Word Has Not Been Said

He admitted he had broken the law. The District Justice very sympathetically announced that he was convinced of Mr. McElligott's

Daily Routine For Machines

Mechanically the equipment should be sound. Milking machine rubbers cracked or holed make working and cleaning difficult and should be replaced immediately. The daily routine, in summer as in winter, requires—

1. rinsing of the milking units with water to remove milk immediately after each milking.
2. more thorough rinsing with hot detergent water to complete the cleaning.
3. rinsing to remove detergent, and
4. sterilising of the units by passing steam through the clusters for a few minutes and steaming the pails in the steam chest with the other metal equipment (210°F. for 10 minutes).

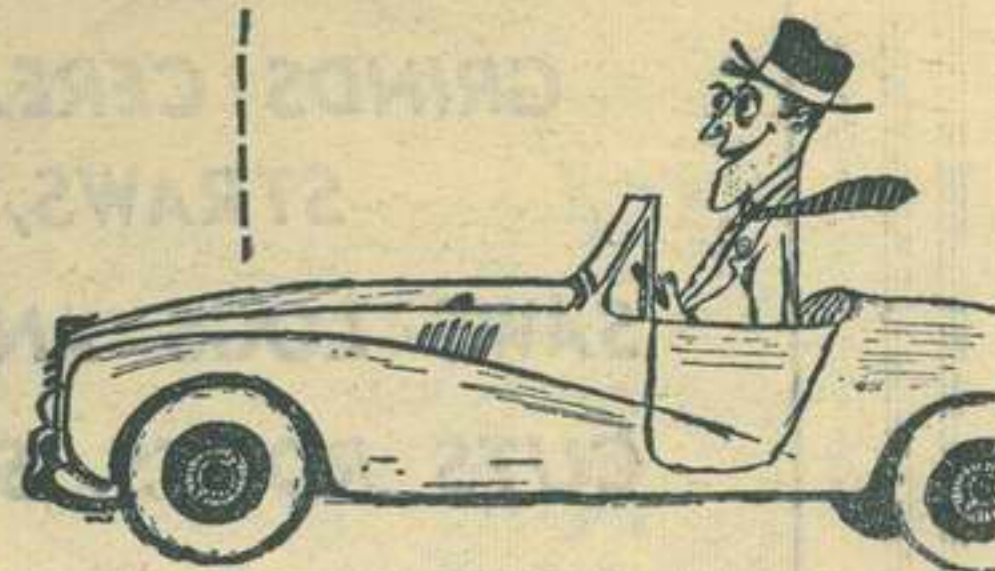
Keep It Clean

The most important requirement in clean milk production in summer is the use of clean, thoroughly sterilised equipment. Scamping the cleaning up operations in the dairy during turnip singling, haymaking or the harvest periods, may soon result in an accumulation of milk solids or other deposits on the utensil surfaces. These in combination with a failure to sterilise the equipment permits a build-up on the surfaces of large numbers of bacteria which gain access to the milk immediately. Unclean milking units constitute the greatest danger. With a milking unit in good hygienic condition milk sampled from the machine pail need not contain more than a few hundred bacteria per millilitre (the quantity taken in the official tests). The number may easily be increased to hundreds of thousands at the very first stage in production by the use of a machine in unsatisfactory condition.

Automation?

To make a gate fall shut by its own weight you should place the bottom hinge slightly out of line with the top hinge. The same effect can be got by tilting the hanging post slightly out of vertical.

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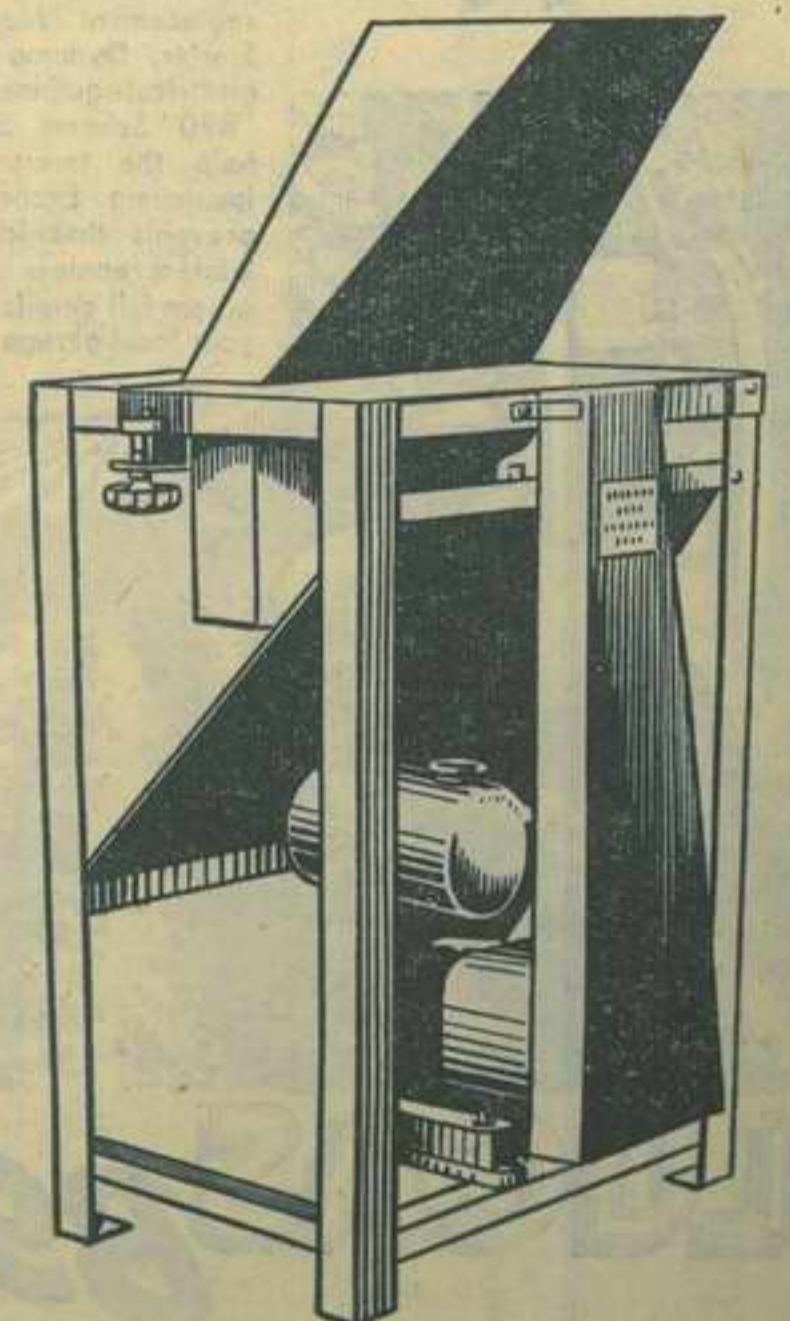
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Home-Grown Wheat For An All-Irish Loaf

WITH modern systems of fertilising and seed-treatment, Irish farmers have been able to grow crops of wheat which are among the heaviest yielders ever recorded. We may not always have the summer weather that makes for the best of harvesting conditions, but again, with the aid of modern equipment—the combine and the grain-drier—this job can now be safely handled.

The question naturally follows, if we can grow such good crops of wheat, why do we still import such large quantities of foreign bread grain? And the answer to that one is, because Irish-grown wheat is inclined to be "soft," as compared with the hard wheat of Manitoba, and bakers say they cannot use more than a proportion of Irish wheat in baking flour.

On the other hand, we can grow varieties of wheat here that are relatively hard, and the National Farmers Association recently sent a sample of Irish wheat to Sweden—where they use only their own home-produced wheat for baking flour—to see what the Swedes thought about our Irish product.

To quote from the Swedish report: "If you can produce a wheat with a bread volume and a protein content like that one you sent us, the Irish millers should not have any trouble in producing an acceptable flour of home-grown wheat only."

The N.F.A. Grain Committee Chairman, G. Richards Orpen, reported on the situation as follows.

Four samples of Atle wheat were sent to Sweden; these were bulked and a mixed sample test against a sample of Swedish Atle. One test cannot be the foundation of a new wheat policy, but the N.F.A. has at least demonstrated that perhaps the difficulty in using only Irish wheat for an Irish loaf does not lie with the farmers or the climate, but with the unwillingness or the inability of the Irish millers or bakers to adapt their methods to the new material.

Consumer Decides

The consumer must have the final decision as to the bread that is eaten here, and far too long the views of the millers and bakers, that palatable bread could not be baked from 100% native wheat, has gone unchallenged. We know now that Swedish bakers in Swedish bakeries can produce a loaf from Irish Atle which is acceptable to Swedish consumers. Apart from any difference in taste between Swedish and Irish consumers, it should not be impossible for Irish bakers to find out how it is done. The answer may also be obtainable in the U.S.A., France or Australia where bread is produced from native soft (low protein) wheats without the addition of hard wheat.

The result of this Swedish test is all the more remarkable when contrasted with the experience of the millers at home that the wheat of the 1955 harvest was unusually soft. The so-called hardness of wheat depends upon the amount of gluten produced by the protein in the wheat. It is thought that the protein ripens first and that the carbohydrate in the grain ripens later. In the wet autumn of 1954 the carbohydrate did not fully ripen so that the grain was harvested with a higher protein content than in 1955.

Research Needed

Recently the Institute of Industrial Research and Standards set up a technical committee to examine certain problems of the milling and baking industries, and it is to be hoped that adequate facilities will be made available to this committee not only to investigate current problems arising from the use of a mixture of native and imported wheats, but also to follow up the lead given by the N.F.A. and make a full investigation of the possibility of an all-Irish loaf. One may well ask why this work was not undertaken when we started to grow wheat again in the 1930's.

More Storage

The wheat storage capacity of the country is now 350,000 tons, and the annual milling requirements are 450,000 tons. If we are to grow

all our own wheat, we shall not only need a further 100,000 tons of storage capacity, but shall need surplus capacity to allow for a carry-over of wheat. The admixture of native wheat from the 1954 harvest had to be reduced to 65% to make an acceptable bread, and if we should be faced with similar conditions again while growing our full requirements we may find a surplus of 150,000 tons in store when the new harvest comes around. Some of this surplus could be sold for animal feeding, but nevertheless it seems that a further 200,000 tons of storage capacity over the present total would be advisable. This extra storage capacity and the necessary drying facilities can also be provided most economically on the farm or in co-operative societies where the drying facilities can be provided most economically on the farm or in co-operative societies where the drying facilities can also be used for barley. Now that the myth that the farmer will damage wheat if permitted to dry it, has been exploded, there is no longer any need

to indulge in expensive storage at the ports where vertical silos have to be erected at approximately double the cost of flat storage on account of the shortage of land.

Safety In A Surplus

It is never easy to adjust the production of any crop to a fixed requirement. However carefully the price to be offered is chosen so as to ensure the correct acreage, the variation of yield will upset matters. There will therefore be a surplus of wheat produced from time to time. This surplus can be exported or it can be diverted to animal feeding either directly or by means of a reduction in the extraction rate so as to produce less flour and more pollard from each ton of wheat. Either method of disposal of the surplus will involve a loss at the prices presently prevailing.

To meet this difficulty the programme for growing our total wheat requirements may have to include a two part payment system under which the full price is given for 450,000 tons and a lower price for any wheat grown in excess of this amount. On the assumption that the surplus will in the main arise only in years of a good yield, this arrangement will impose no hardship on the farmers.

UNWANTED PLANTS

By P. A. O'NEILL

WEEDS may be considered as plants which are growing where they are neither required nor desirable; they use up plant foods, space, light and moisture which should be nourishing profitable crops. Ragwort, thistles, docks, buttercups, coltsfoot, preshaugh and such like are the outward signs that land is not being farmed as it should, besides making the harvesting of crops more difficult.

Ragwort, thistle and dock are particularly undesirable because at their seedling stage their seeds are blown by the wind all over the country side.

CHEMICALS

The problem of weed control on the farm is one that is of major importance to the farmer. In the past the only means at the farmer's disposal was the ploughing up of weed infested land. In recent times, however, weed killers of selected properties have done much to ease the farmer's lot.

Before investing in selective weed killers, however, the farmer should have some idea of the range of effectiveness of the chemical he proposes to use and also be in a position to identify the common weeds present in the crop to be treated.

TWO KINDS

There are two kinds of selective weedkillers sprays: (1) Hormone sprays which act by stimulating the growing point of the plant and so causing distortion; (2) Non-Hormone sprays which have a straightforward action burning the plant off. M.C.P.A. and 2-4-D sprays are of the hormone type, whereas sprays of D.N.O.C. are of the non-hormone type.

It may not be assumed that the application of a hormone spray will eradicate all weeds from a crop. Perennial weeds are generally found to be fairly resistant.

One of the commonest weeds in country and most dangerous is Ragwort. Cattle often appear to eat it without suffering any serious effects but it is most treacherous and death may not follow for months later as the plant itself contained many poisonous substances which can attack the liver, the brain or the intestines of cattle. Control may be effected either by repeated cutting in early July for number of years or by selected weedkiller (MCPA, 2-4D).

IN TILLAGE

The following weeds of tillage land if treated at the seedling stage are generally killed off by hormone sprays — Lambsquarter, buttercup, charlock, poppy, pennycrest, thistle,

hemp-nettle and horsetail. DNOC spray on the other hand cleans off resistant types such as bindweed, chickweed, silverweed, spurry, coltsfoot, corn marigold. Nettles and docks are generally resistant but if the weather is good these may be checked in vigor and so enable the crop to smother them.

Grassland weeds susceptible to hormone sprays depending on stage of growth are plantain, ox-eye daisy, dandelion, rushes, thistles, sheeps sorrel and silverweed. Docks and nettles, bracken and cleavers are resistant as DNOC sprays may not be used on grassland.

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Home And Export Demand Is Met

WITH generations of experience behind it, Varians, an industry drawing many of its essential raw materials from distant lands, not only meets the needs of the home market but has had the self-confidence to enter foreign markets and challenge competition in that field.

At home, it successfully faced up to unfair dumping from Japan and the subsidised exports from some European countries that for a time threatened its existence. When the Irish Government finally introduced a protective tariff and quota system, the firm did not passively sit back, but took advantage of the new opportunity to buy better machines and introduce new processes.

Its output, at present, covers every aspect of brush making, and on grounds of efficiency it can compete with the largest of foreign firms. It has proudly upheld Dublin's long established reputation as one of the foremost centres in which to buy brushes of all kinds.

That the excellency of the product is realised abroad can be seen from the European, American and African addresses that appear through the firm's books.

With Government imposed tariffs and restrictions seeking an outlet in other countries is a difficult proposition to-day, but still Varians is a name with a reputation. In Mediterranean lands it is synonymous with first-rate craftsmanship for many a day.

ALL SHAPES

More than a thousand different kinds of brushes for every conceivable purpose is turned out by the firm. They are of all shapes and sizes from the tiny eyelash brush to those of unusual technical design suitable for specialised industries. There is to-day hardly a process in which a brush is not used, for which Varians has not fulfilled an order.

Quite a number of the brushes are made specially to fulfil some need known only to the user, and, of course, the brush makers.

One assignment, for instance, was for a ten foot roll brush for a city bakery, and another was for a spiralling steel brush to clean metal tubes. With the latter went the proviso that it had to be correct to within the thousandth of an inch of the specification!

300 WORKERS

The variety of articles produced means that there is not a great deal of scope for mass production methods so that the finished product has a high labour content. There are 300 workers directly on the firm's pay roll. Many are craftsmen and craftswomen who because of their high skill earn a comparatively high wage.

The more expensive brushes must still be turned out by hand but complicated machinery installed to meet modern needs also calls for the highest of skilled operatives.

The expansion of the industry has also boosted the ancillary industries which supply packing, wood, leather and plastic. In relation to the value of what is imported, the employment given is high, in quantity and order of skill.

Not Enough New Brooms

The British Productivity Council has just published a report on how to make the public Cross-Channel more "brush conscious".

An innovation, which it is thought, may swell the sales of domestic brushes, is the use of synthetics with superior "eye-appeal" already widely employed by Varians. It is impossible, the British review observes, to become enthusiastic about the purchase of an ordinary wooden brush, whereas the same article with a brightly coloured plastic handle and a filling in a contrasting shade becomes decorative and an adornment to a room, or a kitchen.

Varians were among the pioneers in the field and their toilet sets with beautiful plastic backs made in Tralee and nylon bristles are beautiful to behold. For those who demand the best there are also attractive aristocratic brushes with best grey bristles and mats and combs of all kinds.

Each week, the Talbot St. factory buys large quantities of wood. Ebony, oak, mahogany, walnut, cherry in addition to beech, sycamore, ash and elm are used to produce an article for the most discerning.

A Characteristic For A Century

A FIRM like Varians that has completed a century as a manufacturing industry must have encountered good times and bad times. Only an industry producing quality products and organised on efficient lines could survive for that period.

Varians has done a lot more than survive. The firm has faced difficult situations and solved problems which to others might have seemed unsurmountable, and when conditions have been favourable they have availed of them for further expansion and the development of new lines. There is evidence of this in the manner in which they expanded under protection and of the way in which they maintained a high level of production throughout the war years and during the post-war years of dislocation, although their industry draws its raw materials from all corners of the globe.

Tradition in Industry

VARIANS, now the leading brushmaking establishment in the country, was founded exactly a hundred years ago, in 1856. But the tradition of the Varian family in the craft goes back even further!

In the historic but troubled year of 1798, a young woolcomber, Thomas Varian, had sufficient confidence and optimism in the future to start for himself a brush factory in the city of Cork. It prospered and soon relatives came to learn the intricate trade in the Munster capital.

A Kinsman, Isaac Stephen Varian, was one of those who mastered the business. After ten years absence in England, he returned to Ireland and set up business in Dublin on the site that Varians occupy in Talbot Street to the present day.

The firm is still owned and controlled by his descendants. The four present partners, including up to the fourth generation from the founders, are: Ian A. Varian, R. A. Ladd, T. M. Ladd and R. G. Kent.

Brushes And Brooms Are Irish And Best

THE proud boast of Varians is that their products are Irish and best and, fortified by this belief, the firm has succeeded in building up the largest brush-making concern not only in Dublin, but in all Ireland.

As the concern has flourished so too has the original factory been gradually extended upward and outward to cope with the extra orders that flow inwards. In addition, stores have had to be acquired in several parts of the city.

BRUSH EXPERTS

The family prides itself on the fact that they are true experts at the business, knowing it thoroughly from top to bottom, and above all they are proud of the fine record in the sphere of labour relations.

They believe that the integrity of a happy band of workers is the best assurance against shoddy workmanship, but as a firm they have never sacrificed business at the altar of hide-bound conservatism.

HAND-MADE PRODUCTS

To-day production has increased enormously owing to the introduction of the latest and the most up-to-date machines from America, Britain and the Continent.

But, still, surrounded by the din of machinery craftsmen and women still use at Talbot Street the time honoured methods of the old hand worker. The visitor is fascinated at the nimble fingers of those sitting around pans of pitch, continuously dipping, tying, and inserting tufts of bristle or hair into holed heads, and the dexterity by which heads are pierced at the correct angle or space and packed with the precise number of bristles.

MECHANISATION

A short distance away modernism is in full command. Such processes as the making of sweeping brushes is to-day mechanised to a great degree. A machine uncannily inserts automatically the tufts of fibre and hair, and even wire staples them in place!

Not content the juggernaut trims its finished article with revolving blades and rids it of loose hairs with a revolving cylindrical brush.

Other machines operating on the same principle have also been installed, the more complex and delicate being the valuable German

tooth-brush machines which work on four plastic brushes at the one time.

SYNTHETIC FIBRES

In recent times nylon and other synthetic substitutes have been introduced, and in every case where the chemist has proved his wares the firm has been among the first to adopt them. Its wide range of products ensures that it has this genius for adaptability, much more so than the specialised concern.

But the day has not yet dawned when the natural materials have had to be discarded. The brush is still an international product drawing its parts from every Continent.

The demand is still there to ensure that Irish horse hair and Irish timber is used, that vegetable fibres are ordered from Africa,

India, Mexico and America, and that animal hairs are imported from Poland, China, India and elsewhere. From all over the world the very fine types are collected.

PRECIOUS AS GOLD

Bristles to-day are scarce and dear. The best quality may run up to a 100/- a pound. One case unloaded at Varians factory may be worth anything from £50 to £500.

Sable hair, a quantity of which is also used, is more valuable than its weight in gold. Artists favour those brushes with the soft hair for their most valuable and delicate work.

With such valuable commodities there is little margin for error, and the expert must be constantly watching international price trends and movements.

Generally, animal hair is valued by its length and quality, the stiffness of the root and the fineness and softness of the tip determine its worth.

That Boar's Head!

ON display in the Talbot Street showrooms are thousands of brushes around a boar's head. That head is the emblem of the industry, for his bristles are considered the foundation of the whole industry of brush making.

Although the chemist has now stepped in, the experts still rely on natural bristles and fibres for the higher class article. Supplies come to Dublin from India, the Far East and several countries behind the Iron Curtain.

The knowledgeable hold that the colder the region the finer the quality of the bristles, and consider the best is imported from Siberia.

Other softer hairs are obtained from the badger, the bear and the squirrel.



This operator turns out brushes on the brush-filling machine. A comparison of the two photographs on this page emphasis the way in which Varians make use of the best of the old and the new methods of brush making.

There And Back

Tradition has it that brooms were first introduced into the United States by the Irish. To-day the firm of Varians brings into Dublin from across the Atlantic "broom corn" specially grown for its toughness and suitability. It bleaches, dyes and processes and manufactures the completed broom which meets a demand in households in the United States and Europe. It has also a market in parts of the West of Ireland where it is preferred to the cheaper fibre brush.

Catch Crops Are Worth More Than Cash

A FARMER who makes use of his land at the "in between" times is the man who is getting real value in every sense of the phrase. By sowing catch crops specially designed for grazing he can do a great deal to help out the fodder situation in the winter and during the critical period of early spring.

Catch crops are a valuable source of food in late autumn and early spring, particularly for dairy cows and in-lamb and suckling ewes, and much greater advantage could be taken of them on many farms. They can be grown very cheaply under suitable conditions and their utilisation presents no difficulty in that they may be strip grazed in the ordinary way.

Land that would be otherwise idle until the next crop is sown or planted should be utilised during that time to produce more cheap food for stock. For instance, crops of early potatoes are harvested in late June and early July; the land is cleared in some cases, of seed potatoes from late July onwards, while in early districts and especially in an early season, cereal crops may be removed soon after the middle of August. In all these cases, except where the land is sown out to grass, farmers should make a special effort to grow another crop as soon as the first one has been cleared from the fields.

Is A Fertility Builder Too

Apart from the cheap and valuable feeding for stock which they provide at a time when succulent foods are scarce, they have the following advantages: The preparation of the seed-bed for the crop, and the crop itself, help to keep weeds in check. Valuable manurial constituents are conserved by the crop, and the fertility of the soil is thus raised. (When land is left bare during the winter a serious loss of plant nutrients may occur, and this is prevented by keeping the soil covered with a crop). The roots and residue of the crop, when ploughed down in spring, add extra humus to the soil.

There is a varied selection of suitable crops for such a purpose, the choice depending largely on the time of year at which they are to be sown. Rape, Italian ryegrass, white mustard, and kale will provide valuable grazing in autumn and winter, and the following rates of seeding per statute acre are suitable for crops intended for use then:

- (1) 22 to 28 lb. Italian ryegrass;
- (2) A mixture of 4 lb. rape, 16 lb. Italian ryegrass, and 6 lb. white mustard;
- (3) 8 to 10 lb. rape;
- (4) 20 lb. white mustard;
- (5) A mixture of 5lb. marrowstem kale and 5 lb. thousand-headed kale.

Mustard must be used before the winter sets in, as the crop will not stand severe weather.

September Sowings

Crops intended for feeding green

in late winter and early spring will usually be successful if sown up to the middle of September or by the end of September in the earlier districts. If at all possible, however, sowing should be done in August. Examples of crops which may be sown at this time, with the rate of seeding per statute acre, are as follows:—

- (1) A mixture of 5 stones winter vetches, 6 stones rye and 12 lb. Italian ryegrass;
- (2) 16 stones rye;
- (3) 10 to 12 lb. rape.

When any of the crops mentioned is to follow a crop of potatoes, a suitable seed-bed can usually be prepared with a spring-tooth or disc harrow, and ploughing will not be necessary, especially if a disc harrow is used. The potato tops and any weeds which may be present should, of course, be removed. If the crop is to follow cereals the land should be ploughed.

Treat It Well

The seed may be broadcast and

harrowed in, or sown with a drill in a prepared seed-bed. If a crop is to be grown on freshly-ploughed lea ground, it is essential that the seed-bed be well consolidated underneath and at the same time be made fine on the surface. A disc harrow is invaluable for preparing such a tilth but, if one is not available, the use of ordinary harrows in conjunction with rolling before and after harrowing, will suffice.

When being grown after potatoes which have been well manured, these crops will succeed on most soils without further manuring, although a dressing of a mixture of 1 cwt. sulphate of ammonia and 2 cwt. superphosphate per acre will be beneficial, especially if sowing is not possible until rather late in the season. If being grown after cereals, flax, or poor quality pasture, farm-yard manure may be ploughed in, or a dressing of a mixture of 2 cwt. superphosphate $\frac{2}{3}$ cwt. muriate of potash and $1\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. sulphate of ammonia applied to each acre before the seed is sown.

Rabbits Are Robbers

TWENTY-FOUR rabbits can consume the produce of one statute acre of farmingland in the course of one year.

This may seem extraordinary, but it is the estimate made by the North of Ireland Ministry of Agriculture.

The National Farmers' Association Chairman, Dr. J. Greene said: "Like so many aspects of our economy very little, and indeed probably no research has been done in this country to determine the extent of the adverse effect the rabbit has had on our national economy and our exports. Fortunately considerable data is available from other countries, but any farmer will have a fair idea of the adverse effect rabbits have on his own individual economy. We need have no fear but that our adverse trade balance position will be strengthened, and not weakened by the extinction of the rabbit".

Sympathetic but Determined

That those people previously engaged in the rabbit trade are now individually at some personal loss is a matter on which we can be sympathetic, but ask them to consider that for the most part they themselves bore little or none of the high cost of rabbit production and so saw the profitable end only. Not at any point can the farmers or the country as a whole lessen their determination to exterminate the rabbit to the utmost of our ability.

For too long farmers permitted unlicensed trespass and damage by rabbits. Man ydid not realise the extent of their annual losses, until Myxomatosis swept through the country and virtually annihilated the species.

ON THE WAY BACK

Rabbits are now renewing their

numbers and unless active steps are taken to destroy them they will again soon be exacting their annual toll from the farmer. One means of destruction is by gassing. Gassing powder is at present procurable through chemists and druggists.

Rabbits are vermin. They rob and destroy, and the greater their numbers, the greater their crimes. It is the serious responsibility of all farmers to destroy rabbits.

A Little Off The Top

When seed-heads form on grasses in pastures, the sward is bound to deteriorate. Stock don't like the wiry stems, and they won't eat and won't thrive if turned onto grass that has gone too coarse and stemmy.

So run out the mower, and just clip a little off the top of all pastures that are growing too far ahead of the cattle. It will pay. You'll have better, longer-lasting grazing afterwards.

'Topping' Pastures Pays Profits

MUCH of the value of a large proportion of grazing land is lost every year by yellowing the grass plants to flower and seed. Seed heads and stalks are not readily eaten by stock and, if eaten, have very little food value compared with young leafy grass. Furthermore, the process of seeding uses up plant food in the soil, and causes the pasture to deteriorate.

Provided a sufficient number of stock is being carried, properly planned strip or rotational grazing will do much to prevent seed heads being produced. If, however, seed heads do develop, a mower should be run over the pasture. The machine should be set high enough to avoid cutting the sole of the grass Topping the pasture in this way will also help to keep such weeds as ragwort and ox-eye daisies in check.

CERTAINLY NOT WASTEFUL

Far too few farmers appreciate the value of "topping" in the management of their grassland; indeed some consider it wasteful of grass. The opposite is true as it stimulates


the growth of young, fresh, leafy grass and thus actually increases the output from pastures in the late summer and autumn.

The formation of flowering heads and seeds not only limits the growth of leafy herbage but also reduces the food stored in the roots of the plants. This leads to lowered vitality, with the result that, in pastures which are allowed repeatedly to run to seed, the better grasses tend to die out and weed grasses such as bent and Yorkshire fog take their place.

In the case of pastures which are being grazed rotationally, "topping" should be done on the day before the end of a grazing period. When cut at this time a large proportion of the seed heads and stalks will be eaten after they become slightly wilted. This applies particularly to the clumps of grass around patches of dung which invariably "run to seed". This grass is carried a short distance from the dung patches on the cutter bar of the mower and is then usually eaten quite readily.

is maic liom

Afzon!



is maic dom

Afzon!

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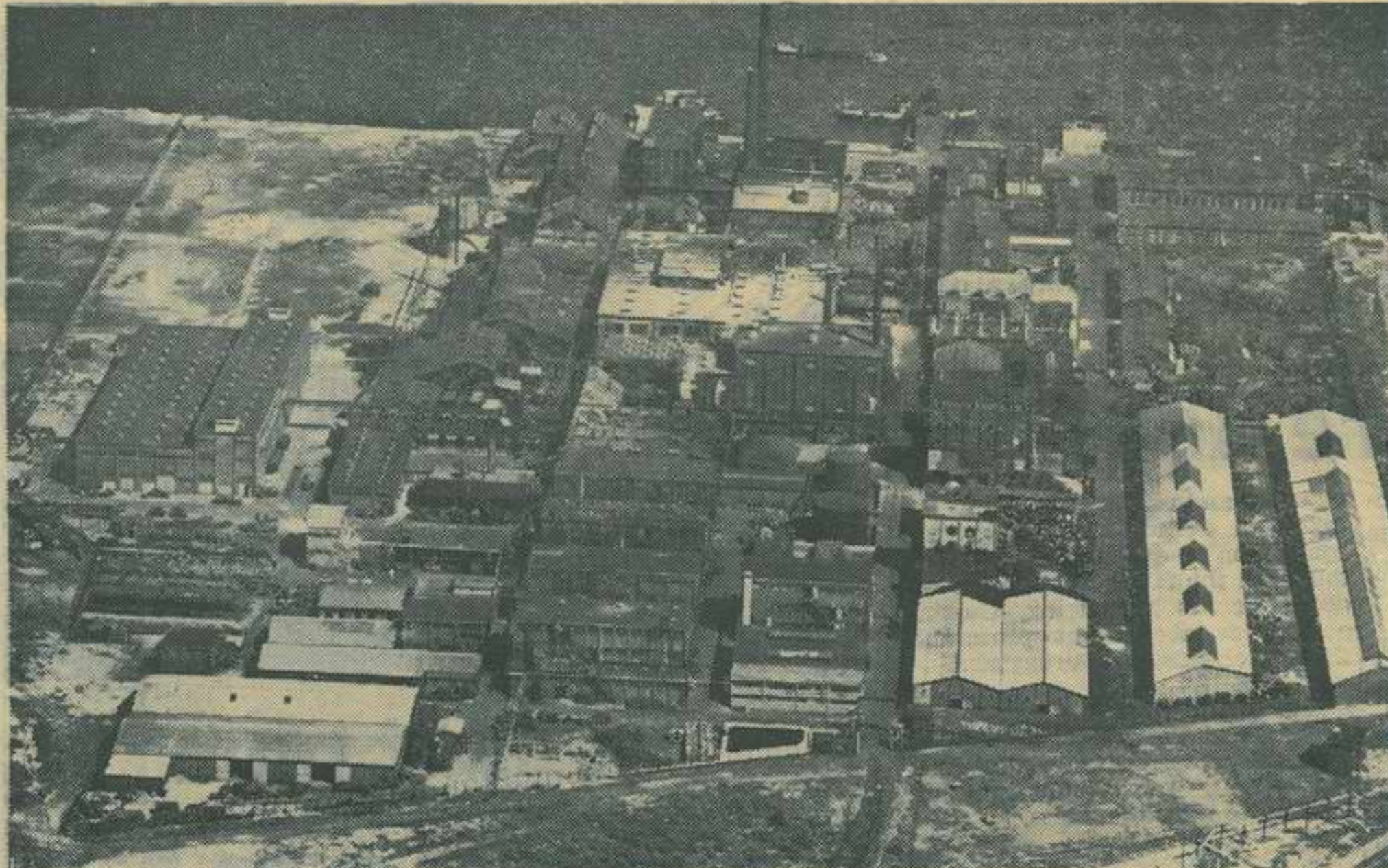
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ALTHOUGH staffed by only Irish personnel, Chemical Services has available to it all the experience of old-established firms in Holland and Germany. By arranging visits of highly specialised technicians from these firms to Ireland, new ideas and methods are introduced, often resulting in improved methods of production and even improvements in the finished products. The Dutch and Germans are well known for the quality of their products.



Factory of Chemical Products, Vondelingenplaat, Holland, manufacturers of fungicides, weed killers, dye stuffs, etc.

Europe's Best Chemicals For All Our Farmers

CONVINCED of the Efficacy of Continental chemical products, not then available on a large scale on the Irish market, the completely Irish controlled company, Chemical Services Ltd., was formed in July, 1953, to introduce them to the industrial and agricultural community.

Its financial independence at once placed it in the enviable position of being selective and only the promotion of those products suitable for Irish needs was undertaken. That this new service was appreciated was soon borne out by the rapidly growing trade in finished products.

MODERN FACTORY

Within the past year increased business encouraged the firm to launch out still further. In co-operation with David Coughlan Ltd., a firm with experience in mineral livestock mixtures.

With experience in mineral livestock mixtures, the production of finished materials was started in Bray, Co. Wicklow.

To-day, proved products are produced there including copper fungicides, weed killers, fruit tree sprays, dressings and insecticides.

The building has been planned on spacious lines with an eye to future increased output, and the realisation of the stated policy of the directors to make at home most of

the actual finished products being imported.

FOREIGN "KNOW-HOW"

The German and Dutch associated companies were favourably impressed by the Irish initiative shown and from the beginning they co-operated wholeheartedly. They made available information concerning their long marketing experience, their methods of production, and any technical assistance required.

As a result the research and studies of the best experts in Holland and Germany are available for the Irish farmer, fruit grower and market gardener.

Lecturers have been brought over from the Continent to tell at first-hand of their production methods, and trials of new materials have been carried out in conjunction with

the firm's Continental associates simultaneously with those in the country of origin so as to test the full effect of local conditions.

LOCAL AGENTS

To channel information to the producer a net-work of local agents has been organised throughout the entire 26 counties. Each individual has been specially trained for his task, and is competent to give advice to all who require it.

In addition each agent carries a stock of the various agricultural chemicals which may be required by a farmer, even on the shortest possible notice.

Believing that it is more beneficial for the customer, Messrs. Chemical Services Ltd., adopted the system of local caches of materials rather than that favoured by other companies of supplying products direct from a Dublin head office.

The company in all cases endeavours to co-operate with the advisory agricultural services offered by Co. Committees of Agriculture and by the Department.

A Full Range Of Effective Products

ADDED confidence to the user of the firm's products is given by the fact that in the factory at Bray the same standards are adhered to as in the world-famed plants of the firm's Dutch and German associates.

Those huge firms are jealous of the good name which has secured for them a large slice of the international market. Before giving a necessary license to use their tried brands in any country they insist on certain guarantees to ensure that their reputation will in no way be injured as a result.

HIGHEST QUALITY

When the Irish project was first put up to them, they were favourable. Because of the limited market they had not considered it a practicable proposition to enter it themselves on a relatively large scale.

But, they also insisted that the same high efficiency with regard to standards should apply in Ireland as in the home countries.

A team of experts arrived to thoroughly examine the new proposition and the plans along which it would be put into effect. Only when fully satisfied with the guarantees was the go-ahead signal given.

STRICTEST RULES

In the countries of origin of each of the products now being "pushed" on the Irish market by Chemical Services Ltd., the law has long ago laid down strict rules to protect the purchaser of such articles. Any default by a manufacturer immediately leaves him open to grave and severe penalties.

In Bray the original formulas are complied with according to the strictest of interpretations thus ensuring that a buyer gets in every case an assured and efficient product.

TWO SECTIONS

While operating two sections under the direct control of the Managing Director, Mr. Nolan, the firm has kept each separate and distinctive.

One section that has expanded a great deal, is exclusively engaged in industrial chemicals and supplies. It caters for the demand that has grown up in industries such as leather, textiles, paint, paper, glass, rubber and so on.

The second section is designed specifically to deal with those chemicals which have an agricultural use, and in this field the progress has been most spectacular.

The graph of output at the factory shows a continuous and steep rise as the countryside becomes more acquainted with the efficiency of what is being marketed.

STABLE EMPLOYMENT

By an ingenious method of organisation and distribution the output of chemicals is kept at a more or less steady level over the twelve months.

A field staff carried out a study of the needs of the agricultural community to avoid sudden peak and low-output periods.

The success of their plan has brought many advantages not the least of which has been the provision of steady all-the-year employment for the firm's labour force and more happy manager-labour relations.

Bailuigheann Brobh Beart!

The firm is a large consumer of Irish containers and its orders has stepped up activity over a range of home products.

Its need for tins has meant more work for a local concern. All its publicity material, its packing, its boxes, and certain of the inert filling materials are purchased and produced at home in Ireland.

AN IRISH ENTERPRISE

CHEMICAL Services Ltd. is a purely Irish organisation with only Irish directors, personnel and capital.

The Chairman of the Company is Thomas F. Nolan and the Managing Director is his son, Brendan T. Nolan, M.Sc. Mr. Brendan Nolan is a graduate in chemistry from University College, Dublin, and has formerly been attached to Imperial Chemical Industries in England and the Swiss Chemical firm of Sandoz. The other directors include Mr. Denis McCullough, for many years associated with the industrial development of this country; Mr. Sean Myler, well known in the motor trade and associated with the development of Board Iascaigh Mhara, and Padraig O'Nuallain, A.C.A., B.A., B.Comm., also a graduate of University College, Dublin, and Secretary of the New Ireland Assurance Co., Ltd.

Although a comparatively young concern, C.S.L. has, nevertheless, made remarkable progress and is now firmly established in both the industrial and agricultural markets.

To overcome the possibility that local conditions might have an effect on any particular material, Chemical Services have carried out trials at home. Also the introduction of new products to the Irish farmer has been speeded up by the fact that products still only in the experimental stage elsewhere, were available for initial field tests here. Consequently when these products are finally approved for general use, experience of the effect under Irish conditions is already available.

Chemical Works, Albert, Germany, manufacturers of superphosphates, insecticides, mercury seed dressings, copper products, resins, etc. Originators of the use of basic slag in agriculture, still widely known as "Albert Basic Slag."



Literature Available

Chemical Services Ltd., have a wide range of interesting pamphlets drawing attention to the efficiency of the products which they are sponsoring.

A letter to the head office at 1 Upper Hatch St., Dublin, gets immediate attention, and, in addition, the inquirer can be put in touch with his local agent who is always pleased and ready to supply on request additional information required.

In The Parish Plan Of The G.A.A. We Found Our Inspiration

It is a great pleasure to hail the "Gaelic Echo" and a greater pleasure to participate in its work. The Gaelic Athletic Association was the pioneer in building up the parish community; it brought to the youth a sense of their parish dignity; it did not import from abroad. It killed that slave spirit of being imitators. It rebuilt our Irish games and gave to our people a pride in what was their own.

In the parish method of the G.A.A. we found our inspiration for a wider parish programme, including all parish activities. The national games must enter into our work, and we bless them for their example of unity and co-operation. What I am going to say will appeal I am sure to all lovers of our national games, for we too find our foundation on the little parish

Place of Love And Sacrifice

Of all human societies there is none so sacred and so important as the family. We are born into it, and its influences follow us to the grave. It gives the protection and the care so necessary for the early years. In Christian life it is the place of love and sacrifice.

In it lie the formative years on which depends so much the road we are to go. It forms ties that death alone can break here below. The children depart and return, and there is nothing so beautiful as the glad expectancy that awaits the return of those who have gone.

Time does not fade its beauty; distance does not break its bonds. The children may wander to far-off parts, but the family union knows no barriers of space. It must be the place of love; it must be the bond of union; it must be the guide to the unknown; it must be indeed the holiest place in human life, and it must be the model of all human societies.

Where the family lives we call by that most beautiful of all names—the home. There is one home which is the model of all others—the first Christian home of Nazareth. For thirty years Christ dwelled there. The story is told in a few words, but words of eternal meaning; "He went down to Nazareth, and was subject to them". Obedience and love, unity and peace were the sources from which the Redeemer drew the human strength to preach the gospel of a home to fallen man. The love that made home for these three became the love of all when with outstretched hands He died on that first Good Friday on a Cross on a Hill. A Hill with a dying Saviour, a Cross raised up for all became the beacon of hope for mankind, and the flame of the love of Nazareth illuminated the world.

Star To Guide Humanity

There are two ways of viewing the home. We look into it and we look out from it. Looking in we can see all the beauty of family life, and looking out we can see the greater world of which the home is a part. We are concerned to-night with looking out. The virtues of the home must be the virtues outside, in other words the home and the family are the power station that brings outside the spirit of the Christian family life. The light within will illuminate the home, but that light beaming outside becomes a star to guide humanity. Then our efforts to build a Christian social order must take their guidance from the family life.

First Step In Its Influence

As the family is the foundation of society, the first step in its influence on society is naturally the Parish. The Parish has many family bonds. They are spiritual, social and economic. The Parish Church is the centre for all the families. They meet there in the common bond of Faith. Social harmony or otherwise will have immediate and greater effects in a neighbourhood. Family traditions and friendships are more deep rooted. They play on the same fields and they met in the same halls. Even their economy is similar, and their successes or failures have the same background. Here then in the Parish is the first step in a Christian social order. Thus, Muintir na Tire is basing its work on the family, and the Parish is basing it on the best possible foundation.

Before developing the progress of home and parish extension, I would like to refer to great dangers that threaten us to-day, and which can be met only by the true family spirit. The two great evils in the world to-day which are not to be found in a good home, and which destroy a Christian society are materialism and individualism. Materialism is very insidious. It needs not a deliberate turning away from God but just too much pre-occupation with material things. In other words we honour God with our lips but not with our hearts. The desire for material things is in us all, and therefore needs more control. It is so easy to fool ourselves whilst we practice a mechanical form of religion. We set our hearts completely on a betterment that forgets the soul and knows not God.

What would be the condition of a human society based on materialism? It would be a community with no other authority but that derived from a mere economic system. It would have only one mission—the production of material things by collective labour. Based merely on economics it would be as unsteady

parish. It has no special membership for all the families of the parish are recognised as being in the Parish Guild. All partake of the benefits obtained even if they should be hostile. This is Christianity. A general meeting is held annually to which all the families of the parish are invited. This meeting is called the Parish Guild. This general body makes suggestions and offers criticisms. Its chief work is to elect a vocational Parish Council. It means that each vocation or section is guaranteed representation on the parish parliament or council, and equal representation. Each vocation elects its own representatives.

Is Then Truly Representative

Once the parish council is elected it can then be said to be truly representative of the parish. It meets at least every month and oftener if required. The general body or guild meets as arranged during the year to keep an active interest alive. This then is our fundamental work—to unite all and to direct all by voca-

tion in Tipperary, through its Women's section has been running a restaurant for the poor. The then Medical Officer for Health stated in a public broadcast that it had done more to drive out that disease in Tipperary than any other effort so far. Since its inception over quarter of a million dinners have been given.

We Put First Things First

A guild in Co. Cork wanted a Technical School; they bought one themselves. These are only a few examples of the practical work of Muintir na Tire. As I stated before, because we put first things first we are sometimes accused of not being practical.

Our fourth objective is recreation. Rural Ireland needs it. Halls that have been built, and playing fields that have been acquired by guilds show our active and constructive interest in this sphere. The guilds everywhere take a special interest in the national games, and many fields have been acquired by the parish councils for this purpose.

By CANON JOHN HAYES, P.P.

Canon John Hayes, Parish Priest of Bansha, Co. Tipperary, is the founder of an organisation that is unique in the agricultural history of this or any other country—Muintir na Tire. The story of the birth and development of this organisation is now part of the history of Ireland. In a future issue of the "Gaelic Echo" we shall tell our readers how the founder has seen an idea germinate and grow into a reality and bear fruit beyond his wildest dreams. To Canon Hayes his achievements are but part of each day's work—EDITOR.

as its foundation, and lead as it has led to chaos. This materialism is creeping into our national life. It is to be found in government methods and in organisations. It is becoming the sine qua non by which all efforts are judged. We are not foolish enough to exclude it for a better standard of living is essential, but it should not be the end of all. The Divine Mandate: "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His justice and all these things will be added" is reversed. When we seek and put first things first, we are accused of being idealists and dreamers, but we are truly realistic, and other methods have produced some terrible nightmares. To-day it is the moral and social breakdown that has caused the economic chaos.

No Place In A Good Home

Individualism also does not find a place in a good home. From its very nature it creates egoism and opposition. This is true of human beings and class groups. Individualism and Christianity are not compatible. Society becomes a bundle of individuals, and destroys the very life of society itself. Physical contact does not make a good society; if otherwise were true our modern transport would have obliterated all social evils. To-day the opposite seems to be true. When individual interests of people of classes become the chief object, a break-down is bound to come in which suffer not merely society but the individuals themselves.

The State Often Forgets Family

The state often forgets the family, and the community and the nation becomes a sum in addition, in which the numerals are individuals. The community can be used for good or evil. It can be based on love which is abiding and brings peace, or on brute force when the ideal of a community is only a farce. Atheistic Communism declares it can do it by a hammer and sickle. Certainly a hammer can make a mass and a mess and a sickle can prevent motion from both. Perhaps it will do it if we do not realise that we have the only answer—a Christian community based on charity. The Mystical Body of Christ in full action is our reply. Society is a natural means which man can and must use to reach his destiny. This society translated to the supernatural in Christ's living body transcends all society.

Muintir na Tire is a movement embracing all the families of the

tional parish council.

In most rural parish councils we have five sections—farmer, labourers, business and professional people, women and youth. Its method, however, will suit any parish. It must suit the people and fit in with their conditions of life. This is reasonable and practical. Visualise then this vocational parliament wherein every interest in the parish is represented, and now the parish becomes a family.

The first work is social, that is to create unity, harmony and co-operation amongst the people, otherwise you cannot have real material betterment. A united family usually means a well-off home and a united parish will usually mean a well-off community. Our next object is education, a cultural education and knowledge of their own profession. We are doing this for the rural people by Summer Schools in Agriculture of which Muintir na Tire was the pioneer; lectures and local courses. When we are united and educated, then we are on the road to material betterment and security. Halls have been erected, schemes for cattle, drainage, reclamation and forestry have been carried out.

Adviser Knows His People

The Muintir na Tire Parish Plan for Agriculture has been declared by a group of international experts as the most progressive step in the improvement of Agricultural Advisory Work in Europe to-day. The Adviser will know his people and will be at their service constantly. The Parish Councils will advise, direct and help in every way possible. The small and the big farmer, as well as the cottier will have all possible attention. The important work of the Parish Council is to make all the people realise that this service it at their doors for there is no compulsion. A beginning has been made and we must make it expand. The Parish Office will be the centre of information. I understand that other countries are going back to the small unit for agricultural expansion. Well, we showed them the way.

A Pilot Scheme For Four Years

Through one parish council the Department of Agriculture has been working for four years a pilot scheme for the elimination of tuberculosis in cattle. From tuberculosis in cattle let me turn to this disease in the people.

For ten years the parish council

Thus it will be seen that our work is for all the people and for every phase of their lives, or in other words a parish community.

Parish Councils unite to form regional bodies for matters more than parochial interests. The next steps are to County and Provincial Federations, and finally there is a National Executive elected by the Guilds themselves. Thus from the parish to the nation the vocational method inspires all. There is no conflict between rural and urban. There are Associate Guilds in the cities and big towns. The interests of each are the interests of all.

Dealing With Local Affairs

The parish being made up of people in all walks of life is a microcosm of society itself and so forms a convenient unit for dealing with local affairs. As the basic unit for a Christian Society is the family, so the basic unit for society itself should be groups of families. If the family is the basic unit then, it is the whole family, and so it is the whole parish and not parts of it that make up the community. The parish must be trained to think and act as a unit. The effect of the influence of externally directed bodies means that the parish resources are duplicated and dissipated. Sectional interests must give way to the interests of the community as a whole. Sectional interests within the parish will find a unity as people in the parish guild. Nothing however should be allowed to impair the effectiveness of the parish unity.

Based On Law Of Christianity

Muintir na Tire is based on the law of Christianity that we love one another. It is not a class organisation; it is based on the community. Thus Christianity began, and it is the same gospel of Christianity now as it was in the beginning. It is the answer and the only answer to a Godless [method based on] hate, divisions and class war; our answer must be a positive one, and we offer that answer.

It may be said that a parish community is a feeble reply to a world crisis, but it is nothing more feeble than the first Christian community that spoke to a pagan world and conquered it. As Christians we have far more to do than merely condemn moral wrongs; we have an obligation to assume responsibility for the solution of problems that

affect the essential living conditions of our people. If these problems are regarded as merely economic, a solution will be impossible.

The remedy for emigration, poverty and discontent requires the understanding that we are all brothers in Christ, and children of a common Father. It requires the spiritual conquest of the hearts of men and women who will lead our people. We seek everywhere for a solution of our problems but we seem to ignore the gospel that every church preaches in every parish of our land, and yet this gospel and it alone can be the true inspiration of any solution. If Muintir na Tire is merely to be considered as an economic organisation seeking only the material betterment of the people, it is doomed to failure.

No movement based on materialism can survive and no movement without a spiritual and social force can achieve permanent good. The mistake that is being made to-day is endeavouring to build an economic structure without a social foundation. The material things come much better when they are not objects to be sought, but results to be obtained by a method truly Christian and truly Irish. Only a good social order will guarantee stable economic betterment.

Build To Our Own Tradition

We must not always remain imitators of imported systems; we must build something suitable to our own traditions. We have seen the failures of what we try to imitate, and surely it is now time to seek a way more in accordance with our Christian way of life. We are building in rural Ireland a vocational order.

It would be a sad outlook to see our people building up an order on warring classes. Unity by a common vocation is the one way to achieve the abiding harmony and peace so essential even for the economics of a nation. Sectional organisations are doing splendid work for their sections, but there must be a place where all men meet as citizens of their parish irrespective of class or creed. Warring groups will never damp the flames of any war. A united rural community is the only hope for a successful issue of our betterment, but it is difficult to get people interested in the community betterment, which alone if they would realise it, will guarantee stability for sectional betterment.

Are Now Over 400 Guilds

From Antrim to Cork parish guilds are growing. Unite all our people in every small area and legal barriers will become obsolete. There are now over 400 guilds of Muintir na Tire. The progress must be slow. It easy to get people interested in their own sectional betterment.

All the sacrifice of the past will be in vain if we do not build on a Christian social order. It will be not merely the guarantee of a good social order, but also a guarantee of a good economic order at home, and it will be the voice of a Christian nation abroad.

May the gospel of the Gaelic Echo spread throughout the land. We meet on parish level. Our work is yours, and yours is ours. We all aim at the one object to bring life, happiness, unity and honest pride into the parishes of Ireland.

Go mbeannuighidh Dia ar saoth-air uilig.

Opening Of New Park

MR. Seamus McFearon, President of the G.A.A., will open the new G.A.A. Park at Dunmoyle, near Ballygawley, on Sunday, September 9th. The park will be named the Cardinal McRory Memorial Park. He will deliver an oration on the occasion, and the Tyrone and Derry senior teams will play in a challenge match.

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JOSEPH MAHER

OCEAN VIEW — LISDOONVARNA

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Eire Og Reach Final

RUAN MADE BIG EFFORT

WHEN they defeated Ruan by 5-10 to 3-5, Eire Og qualified for the Clare County Senior Hurling Championship final. This was the second year in succession that they reached the final.

The winners were in the lead throughout the game and at half-time led by 3-5 to 0-2. It was a keenly contested game played in true sportsmanlike style, although the score would not seem to indicate that. The highlight was in the second half, when Ruan made a tremendous effort to turn the tables after the resumption of play. They were unable to keep up the pressure, however, and it looked as if Eire Og would have a very easy task from then on, but Ruan came back full of vigour, much to the surprise of the spectators, and battled hard to gain the ascendancy. Their efforts were in vain, for Eire Og held the initiative throughout. Great credit is due to the losers, for they continued to contest the issue as if one score would have brought them victory.

With Eire Og it was a case of speed, style and craft winning the day for them again. Ruan were little behind in the matter of speed in the first half but were unable to maintain this equivalent. In style and craft the winners had something that carried them over the disadvantage of generally heavier opponents.

There was a vast improvement in the defence compared with the previous Sunday's form against Newmarket in the Cup, and the inclusion of M. Morrissey at midfield swung the game in their favour here. P. Brooks, as against Newmarket, got an early switch from full-forward to centre-half with A. Keaty, but all Keaty's forays goalwards did not make the full-forward line look much better as a whole.

Eire Og—P. Kirby, goal; G. Moroney, P. Loftus, B. Burke; J. Cronin, Michael Blake, B. Dilger, Michael Morrissey and C. Madigan; L. Blake, A. Keaty, S. Madigan; P. Duggan, P. Brooks, G. Cronin.

Ruan—P. O'Loughlin, goal; F. Lyons, P. Lyons, J. Kelly, T. Casey, P. Feighery, T. Crowe; J. and M. Smyth; P. Henchy, J. Meaney, T. Pyne; W. Kitson, M. Meere, M. Henchy.

Michael Quane, Cratloe, refereed.

BIRR SHOW

THE Birr Agricultural Society's Show will be held at the Show Grounds, High Street, Birr, on Wednesday, September 5. There are almost 300 classes in the Show and the awards include 26 Challenge Cups and medals.

The Show Grounds are open at 8 a.m. on the morning of the Show, and exhibits must be on the grounds, properly attended, before 10 a.m.

There are special jumping competitions, with all fences made to Royal Dublin Society plan. Jumping will commence at 2.30 p.m.

Brose Walsh Gives Cup

ST. ANN'S Belcarra-Manulla G.A.A. Club, County Mayo, have this year put up the Walsh Cup and set of medals presented to the club by band-leader, Brose Walsh, for a juvenile football league. Four teams are participating.

Waterford Cut Glass

THE FASHIONABLE PRESENT



Money Back At Castleisland

FOR a very unusual reason indeed a Kerry minor football championship game between Dingle and Castleisland was called off. The game was being played in wretched conditions before a very small crowd when after only ten minutes play—bang—the ball burst. There was no other ball available so the game was called off.

Clover Meats Win Again

CLOVER Meats, recently successfully defended their Waterford inter-factory hurling league title when they beat Public Authorities 6-4 to 0-6. Outstanding for the winners was Waterford Co. goalie, Sean Murphy, who gave a very fine display between the posts.

Returned To United States

MR. Paddy Gordon, an old member of the Ennis Dalcassians hurling team, recently returned to the United States after a holiday in his native Ennis. Paddy was a member of the 1914 Clare junior team which won that year's All-Ireland title. Before leaving, he presented the Ennis team of to-day, Eire Og, with a supply of hurling balls.

Hurling History

IN winning the Tipperary juvenile championship, a stylish fifteen young Boherlahan Gaels have made hurling history, as this is the first juvenile title won by the "home of Johnny Leahy." In the final they beat a gallant Lorrha team by 2-6 to 3-0.

Good Reason To Be Proud

MOST young men would feel proud to appear in the green and gold of the Kingdom in a Munster final and Tom Collins of Ballymacquin has three good reasons for feeling proud because he has had the unique distinction of appearing on three Kerry teams this year. With the junior hurlers and footballers he captured two Munster medals and with the senior footballers he just missed making it three up by one point.

The Ryans To The Fore

ONE of the reasons the Limerick hurling team is so fast is that the majority of the team are first-class athletes as the Ryan brothers proved recently at Cappamore sports where Liam made it a treble. He won the 100, 220, and 440 yards events. Then Seamus got second in the mile.

Referee Out

AT the recent Loughmore v. Sarsfields Tipperary senior football game played at Templemore an unusual occurrence took place when referee Bob Stakelum went down injured and had to receive medical attention. What actually happened was that an "unsighted" player ran flush into Bob splitting his upper lip which bled profusely. After having the cut treated the game continued. The injury did not interfere with his blowing of the whistle.

Objection

FAUGHS (Ennis) objection to Lisdoonvarna's win in the Co. Clare senior football championship on the grounds that full back Eamonn Burke was a non-registered player failed, so Lisdoon go on to meet Miltown in the second round.

Note Of Sadness

A NOTE of sadness prevailed at the meeting of Eire Og and Smith-O'Brien's in the Co. Clare

quarter final (senior hurling) recently at Tulla. Eire Og team wore black armlets as a mark of respect to two of their players, Michael and Bernie Dilger, on the recent death of their father. The deceased Mr. Bernard Dilger, Connolly Villas, Ennis, who died in England was a stalwart Gael himself and reared a stalwart Gaelic family.

Needed Boost

ON August Monday London hurling team, Brian Boru, met Ennis Eire Og at Kilkee, Co. Clare, much to the delight of locals and visitors. Best of praise to well-known Gael, Michael Woods, whose untiring efforts to make this possible deserve the best of results. Hurling in West Clare could do with a boost nowadays, and efforts such as these are one of the many ways to ensure the hurling prowess of the area a well-needed advancement.

Well Deserved

BON Voyage was given in gusto by his many Co. Clare friends, particularly around Quilty, to Mr. P. J. McGlennon, a former Quilty footballer, on his recent departure to U.S.A. A thorough sportsman on the football field "P. J." well deserved the sendoff from his admirers. All West Clare Gaels wish him well.

Big Shock

CRANNY hurlers received a very rude shock in the junior divisional final against Kilrush B, when after leading well in the first half, and showing all-round superiority, they failed to maintain their advantage and wilted under the many Kilrush attacks in the second half, and lost on the score of 3-11 to 4-2. Hard lines Cranny, but one never knows until the final whistle, so congratulations Kilrush juniors.

Now For Final

BOY heroes around Bruree, Co. Limerick, nowadays are local minor footballers, Hogan and Riordan, who were the principal scorers in Bruree's recent win in the Minor football championship (South), when they defeated Dromin-Athlaca by 5-4 to 2-2 in the semi-final, and now qualify for the final. Best for Dromin were Treacy and Donohoe. Referee was Mr. M. Galvain, Kilmallock.

Congratulations

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr. Joseph Scully, on his receiving B.A. degree at U.C.C. recently. Mr. Scully is a prominent member of Dromcollogher, Co. Limerick, and U.C.C. hurling clubs. He is son of Mr. John Scully, N.T., and Mrs. Scully, The Square, Dromcollogher.

Survived

HAVING survived an objection in the first round of the County Limerick senior hurling championship, famed Ahane are expected to do well in the forthcoming rounds, having the assistance of county players, Paddy Enright, Willie Keane, Tommy Casey and L. Kelly, with of course the able advice of Mick Mackey from the sideline.

A Popular Appointment

FORMER Co. Cork All-Ireland hurler, Con Murphy, has been appointed to succeed his famous namesake, Sean Og Murphy as secretary of the Co. Cork G.A.A. Board. Certainly a good man succeeded by another good man, both on and off the field.

Remembered

SEAN OG HANLEY, a native of Kilfinane, Co. Limerick, who was one of Limerick's greatest hurlers in the early days of the G.A.A. is buried at Kensal Green Cemetery, London. Gaels at home and in London are organising funds to erect a suitable memorial to Sean Og over his grave, and its success is certain as the memory of this great Gael is still green at home and abroad.

Personality Parade



Picture taken at opening of Tir na n-Og Ballroom, Duke St., Dublin, shows the Lord Mayor of Dublin addressing the audience. Also included is Mr. Enda Boland, the promoter of the Ballroom.

Jim Rodgers

ONE of Wicklow's outstanding footballers when they failed narrowly to Dublin in the 1956 in the Leinster championship at Ennis-corthy last May, was Jim Rodgers of Donard. Rated as one of the best ever to don the Garden County colours, he learned his football at the Good Council College, New Ross and helped Donard win the county senior title at the age of 17. He was deprived of minor renown, as these competitions were abandoned during the war years, but he made the senior team before he had reached his eighteenth birthday.

NO CLUB

At an early age, he joined the Garda and was assigned to Blackwater, Co. Wexford, in 1946. Here, no football team functioned and he was unable to compete in any club football owing to the Parish Rule. This was a big setback for a budding star, but it did not dim his enthusiasm, and a few years later, despite the lack of practise, he was one of the finest exponents of the code in the country.

WEXFORD STAR

He played with his native county from 1944 to '48. He lined out with Wexford, whom he assisted until 1952.

The tall, well-built Garda figured in many memorable games with the Model County. In 1948 they reached the Leinster final, but failed to Louth. They were defeated by Mayo in the National Football League final the same year, and in 1949 they failed narrowly to Meath in the League semi-final, '98 Tournament decider, and the Leinster football final. All three meetings proved to be hectic encounters, and the Royal County men, who later won All-Ireland honours, had only the narrowest of margins to spare every time. Rodgers was one of the Slaney-siders outstanding players and he helped them beat an English selection at Mitcham in 1949.

RAILWAY CUP SUCCESSES

One of the finest players of his time, Jim never won an All-Ireland, National League or Provincial medal, and his most important souvenirs are Railway Cup medals, collected in 1952, '53 and '55. Wicklow followers were delighted at his decision in declaring for his native county in 1952. His presence put new life into the county team. They gave many fine displays in the League and championship and captured their first ever senior trophy, the O'Byrne Cup, in 1955.

A fine clean player, his favourite position is left half-back, but he has given some fine displays at midfield for both county and province.

During his stay in Blackwater, he developed a keen interest in hurling and won the Leinster title with Wicklow in 1954.

Now, at the age of 29, he is 13½ stone, stands almost 6 feet and plays both hurling and football for the Garden County.

Newry's New Ground

NEWRY'S new Gaelic grounds have been officially recognised as a first-class venue for county games, and the local officials and supporters have every reason to be proud of their achievement.

Members of the Ulster Council inspected the pitch and complimented Father C. H. Esler, and his loyal band of workers on the progress they had made.

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The Best Men Since 1950

BY MICHAEL O'CADHLA

THERE have been many brilliant individual performances on the playing fields over the past seven years and many have left memories that will never be effaced from the minds of Gaeldom. When asked by a friend recently to pick the best teams of that era, I found it was a very difficult task and it was only after much chopping and changing that I arrived at a conclusion. Here were my selections:

HURLING

Tony Reddan (Tipp).
B. Rackard N. O'Donnell J. Lyons
J. English P. Stakelum W. Rackard
Joe Salmon Phil Shanahan
T. Flood W. J. Daly S. Clohessy
P. Kenny N. Rackard C. Ring

FOOTBALL

Danny O'Neill (Kerry).
Paddy Paddy Sean
Driscoll Prendergast Flanagan
S. Murphy J. Cronin J. Lyne
John Dowling Jim Crowley
M. Higgins P. Carney T. Lyne
S. Purcell T. Langan K. Heffernan

WHAT DO YOU THINK, READER?

Tony Reddan was undoubtedly the best goalie I saw in action during this period, his nearest rival being Sean Duggan of Galway.

I picked Bobby Rackard chiefly for his wonderful displays in 1954 and '55. Fighting for the position of the best full back are two grand hurlers, Nick O'Donnell and John Lyons. My only reason for playing the Cork man out of position is that he would operate with more distinction on the left wing than O'Donnell.

In my rating Jim English, Pat Stakelum and Billie Rackard are automatic choices and I think Stakelum was one of the best half backs ever to grace the hurling arena. Midfield, however, poses a problem and my choice of Salmon and Shanahan will likely come in for much criticism.

It would be hard to omit the versatile Willie John Daly and I picked him as centre forward, although he has given some of his best displays in defence. That deadly opportunist Tim Flood has been very consistent with Wexford, while Sean Clohessy has proved himself one of the sweetest caman wielders of the present day.

Musts

A must for the full forward berth is that indomitable power hurler, Nicky Rackard from Rathnure, who more than anybody else was responsible for the rise of Wexford. Another certainty is the Cork wizard Christy Ring, who has put Cork on the road to many a success with his power packed hurling and flashing goals from all angles.

On the right wing Paddy Kenny from Borrisoleigh was a star when Tipp. were at their best and now nearing the veteran stage he has made a remarkable comeback after a few years in oblivion.

ABUNDANCE OF FOOTBALL TALENT

I found it a far more difficult task to pick the football team and here I could pick not one team but five or six.

Goalie Danny O'Neill was a Kerry star in '52 and '56 and I rate him the best since the days of the famous Danno Keefe. Paddy O'Driscoll has always been a stalwart defender and I prefer him to Jas. Murphy, Mick O'Brien or Jerome O'Shea. My choice at full back—Paddy Prendergast—was at his greatest in '50 and '51 and I named him despite the claims of Paddy O'Brien, "Gunner" Brady and Paddy "Bawn" Brosnan. On his left it would be hard to place a better man than Sean Flanagan.

The half line of Sean Murphy, John Cronin and Jackie Lyne may not meet with one hundred per cent. approval, but all three have delighted the fans time and again by their fine fielding and lengthy kicking and indeed very seldom met their masters.

Kerry's John Dowling has been dominant at midfield for the past three years, while Jim Crowley is probably his nearest rival. Fabulous Cavan man, Mick Higgins, was a very brainy forward, while the flying Mayo medico Pdraig Carney must be one of the best ever centre forwards.

At his best the long kicking Tadhg Lynch has few rivals for the No. 12 jersey. Top of the right is the versatile Sean Purcell, who can play equally well in any post. Mayo's Garda Tom Langan has proved himself a master at full forward, while Kevin Heffernan has been a constant menace to defenders in recent times.

There are several others I would like to include, but there were only fifteen places in each team. Perhaps somebody else can do better and I would like them to send along their selections to the Editor who may find space for publishing a selection of the choices.

LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON

By FEAR NA SUIRE

ON the broad acres of Mount Sion's playing grounds situated on Airmount heights, overlooking the City of Waterford, hundreds of youthful hurlers and footballers can be seen each week-end indulging in native pastimes and enjoying every minute of it. Around this scene stands much of Deise hopes for the future, and the men at the helm fully realise the importance of juvenile competition as a nursery for the Gaelic stars of to-morrow.

Any Saturday afternoon a stranger would be amazed on a visit to Airmount, to find five or more games simultaneously in motion on hastily flag-marked grounds. Here and there may be found small bands of enthusiastic spectators, cheering on their particular favourites, or perhaps more than one father keeping a watchful eye towards the progress of a son.

For here a new generation of Waterford blood carry on a tradition of dauntless courage, or solid adherence to the games of the soil, and a determination to emulate the deeds of their forefathers.

It is only to be expected that among the 750 playing members of city leagues are found sons of men who two or three decades ago blazed the hurling or football scene with feats never to be forgotten. Anxious to play their part in the Gaelic march of the nation, those lads take their games seriously—and no wonder.

While space limits a complete list of such famous off-springs, a few noteworthy should suffice on this occasion, and further mention can be made later.

Driving force behind the progressive Morrisson's Road Club are a group of brothers—Sean, Paddy and Michael Foley, whose father was an Erin's Own hurling star a little over a decade ago. In the same ranks can be found Tommy Fanning, son of a man who helped Waterford win their first Munster senior hurling title in 1938. Old Gaels recall the hurling wizardry of Waterford's Nicky Fardy, when watching his son, Nicholas, playing in the colours of Ard Na Greine.

The historic village of Ballytruckle claims twin stars in Phil and Michael Gaffney, a name renowned on Munster playing fields back in the twenties.

Gracedieu teams boasts of sons of old-time stars in Denis and Joe Douglas, James and Larry Phelan, and John Wyse.

Roanmore bears a link with early winning Mount Sion teams, with the proud name of Gallagher, while eldest son, Phil, of present County Board Chairman, Pat Fanning, remains the leading light of Cork Road fifteens.

The list is by no means complete, but it reveals in some small way the strong ties binding the youth of a city to the games of the Gael, and adds further testimony that Waterford's youth are mindful of their heritage, and anxious to maintain it in the future.

Focus on
Ulster

It Would Tax Even Michael

IT would surely take all Michael O'Hehir's ability had he been asked to broadcast a recent Donegal football championship game between Dungloe and Gweedore because on the Dungloe team were five Boyles and three O'Donnells, and on the Gweedore team there were three Carrs and—believe it or not—six Gallaghers. Dungloe won by 2-6 to Gweedore's 1-5.

Six Teams Competed

A MOST successful sports meeting and aeriocht was promoted

recently by the Barnesmore Club (Donegal). One of the highlights of the day was a seven-a-side football tournament in which six teams participated. In the final Ballyshannon defeated Kilcar by 2-4 to 0-2. The winners were each presented with a silver cup.

Two Firsts One Second

A SUCCESSFUL sports meeting was held at Creeslough, Donegal, under the auspices of the local football club. The outstanding athlete of the day was Michael McFadden of Milford, who won the 220 and 440 yards events and was second in the 100 yards.

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Connacht Commentary



A Tribute

RECENTLY ordained, Rev. Cyril Haran, former member of the Grange, Co. Sligo Club, was made a presentation of a chalice by Mr. E. Gilbride, T.D., on behalf of the club at a function recently held in his honour. An outstanding player, who helped Grange throughout his student days, Fr. Haran thanked his football colleagues for their very kind gesture and he wished the club every success in the future.

Nine-A-Side

AN unusual selection of nine-a-side was the order of the day a few Sundays ago at Oxfield, Co. Sligo, when eight teams fielded in a special competition under the auspices of the Drumcliffe Football Club. The standard of play was high throughout with Tubbercurry and Grange contesting an exciting final. Tubbercurry proved the eventual winners by 2-10 to 1-5 for Grange.

Michigan Tribute

A 700 word article entitled, "Detroit doctor renowned as Gaelic football player," was recently published in the "Detroit News." The article, written by news reporter Harvey Barcus, paid tribute to Dr. Padraig Carney and his deeds of glory on the football field. Dr. Carney is now practising in a Detroit hospital and is playing football with the local team, which is under the guidance of Clare footballer of thirty years ago, Tom Fitzpatrick.

Mayo Camogie Star Weds

MISS LENA LENNON, who starred for Mayo in their Connacht final win, was married recently. Lena is the holder of two Connacht Championships and was for the past few years the most brilliant player on St. Mary's team, Westport. Her team-mates formed a guard of honour, making an archway of camogie sticks at her wedding. We join with her friends in congratulating her.

A Coincidence

BY "FIFTY"

ON all successful Leitrim teams in all grades to date, a Ballinamore player has occupied the left half forward position. Stranger still is the fact that, with one exception, they all lived within 100 yards of each other in High St., or Cannaboe as it is locally known. 1927, Ned Dolan (senior); 1938, J. Keegan (junior); 1941, J. Keegan; 1945-46, Peter Dolan (minor and junior); 1952, B. Sweeney (junior); and 1956, Patrick Dolan (minor).

Local Support Is Assured

EXTENSIVE renovation to the handball alley in Belcarra, Co. Mayo is but one of the items on the programme of the young local enthusiasts who hope to put the town back on the handball map by next season. Strong local support is assured in the good work.

Was The Best Connacht Final Ever

(By JIMMY LAVELLE)

CONGRATULATIONS Mayo on retaining the Connacht camogie title for the fourth successive year. You were made fight every inch of the way by a magnificent Galway team, but you emerged victors in one of the most exciting games ever.

Yes, let there be no doubt about it, this year's Connacht final must go down in the annals of camogie as the most outstanding game ever played west of the Shannon.

It was only in the dying seconds of overtime that Mayo snatched the winning goal from a side which completely took the champions by surprise.

GALWAY LED

The Corribiders got off to a flying start and turned over at the interval with a three-point lead.

Mayo, however, never lost heart and came back in a great rally which brought them two goals in quick succession.

Galway were not daunted and in a short time they had scored the equalising goal.

They continued to press but the stalwart Mayo defence relentlessly cleared attack after attack until the final whistle.

EXTRA TIME

The keenness with which the first match was contested was nothing to what the spectators witnessed in the extra time which followed.

Both teams fought with all their

Mayo's "Flying" Camogie Player

MAYO G.A.A. made history a few years ago when they brought Dr. Padraig Carney home from America for the League semi-final and final.

Mayo Camogie Board again made history this year when they brought Maureen Lally, Islandeady, home from the Isle of Man for the Connacht camogie final.

Maureen flew home on the night previous to the match and was seen off from the airport by her sister, Celia, and the McNamera sisters, other well-known Mayo camogie stars who are in seasonal employment in the Isle of Man. She gave a brilliant display for Mayo at mid-field and will again have to make the trip for the semi-final versus Cork.

IN KENNY PARK

FRANK CONNOLLY, Cahercrin, and John Callinan, Ballylinn, two of the Craughwell juniors play with the Galway junior team who won the Connacht hurling championship.

The final of the Gilligan Memorial Tournament between Turloughmore and Castlegar will be played in the Kenny Park, Athenry.

The Gilligan Memorial Committee will hold a ceilid in aid of the hurling park in September. Music will be by Jim Noone's Celi Band, Roscommon.

Kenny's Park will also house the Co. Cup hurling final between Ardahan and Turloughmore.

might and tenseness and excitement went hand in hand as the twenty-four players freely expended their energy in an endeavour to collect the crown. It was only within a few minutes from full time when Bridie Scully, who now holds her fourth Connacht Championship Cup, got through for Mayo's winning goal.

FAIR-HAIRED TUAM STAR

While Mayo won the honours, the fair-haired Tuam girl, Mabel Codley, won the hearts of the supporters. Playing at centre-field in the first game, she gave a wonderful display. In the second game she moved to the defence and drew rounds of applause for her great clearances under pressure. When deprived of her caman her long raking kicks to centre-field was a feature of the game.

Athletics

He Held Three Sprint Titles

WHEN Rev. Kevin Connolly, C.C., St. Peter's, Drogheda, won the 100 and 220 yards races at Navan open sports recently, he was competing in his first races for 8 years. It was fitting that the first to congratulate him after each event was the present Irish sprint champion, Albert Harding (Celtic A.C.), who also competed. Father Connolly, of course, at one time held all three Irish sprint titles.

It was, therefore, a fitting tribute to his prowess as a runner and his incomparable knowledge of athletics that he was chosen to accompany the Irish Youths' team at the European Catholic youths' championships in Lisbon as their trainer.

Father Connolly, as President of the Lourdes Athletic Club, Drogheda, has been mainly responsible for the revival of the sport in the town.

Tour Of Louth

CUCHULLAIN Cycling Club, Dundalk, are to hold their annual tour of Louth road race this month. Last year the race was a 50 miles affair, but this year it will most likely be 90.

Back After Sixty Years

A RECENT visitor to Drogheda was Paddy Clarke, who has resided in the Bronx, New York, for the past 60 years.

Paddy, who comes from Rossin, Co. Meath, was a well-known Gaelic footballer with Castletown G.F.C. He also represented his county against Louth and reminiscing on these games, names like Ian Markey, Larry Stanley, Larry McCormack and many others, too numerous to mention, sprung to his mind. Paddy has had many connections with Drogheda and is a relation of the Clarke family.

Boys Will Be Amply Repaid

THE new club-rooms at Castle-town, Dundalk being built by Clan-na-Gaels G.F.C. by voluntary labour, are now nearing completion. These club-rooms have all modern conveniences, including central heating, tarraza bathrooms and shower cubicles. It is a two-storey building made of red bricks.

The boys of the club will be amply repaid for all the hard work they have put into the project when the opening ceremony takes place in the near future.

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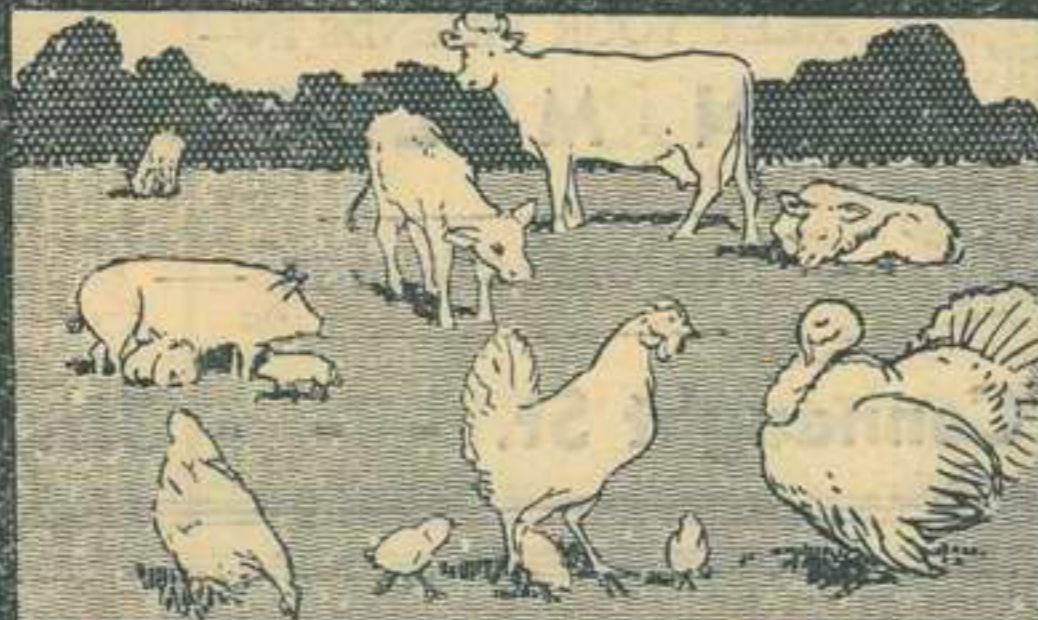
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THE 1955 CHAMPIONS



WEXFORD, 1955 ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONS.

REPORT FROM OFFALY

High Hopes Ended In Another Failure

By "THE WATCHMAN"
IN Offaly—one of the "dual purpose" counties where both hurling and football are promoted with equal enthusiasm—followers have become immune to disappointment by the failure of their county teams in inter-county championships.

Notwithstanding the fact that defeat has been invariably Offaly's portion in both hurling and football down the years, nevertheless, the 1956 season is likely to go down in the minds of the county's supporters as being the most disappointing year of all time.

Hopes of the county's first-ever success in a senior football championship were never so high as this year, and when Offaly surmounted the formidable Meath hurdle in the first round, enthusiasm from end to end of the county knew no bounds.

Meath had been gradually rebuilding their forces following their 1955 collapse against Dublin, and succeeded so well that they qualified for the final of the National League, in which the victors, Cork, were held to the narrow margin of a single point. No wonder, then, that Offaly's stock soared sky-high when they outclassed the Royal County men at all stages and won "as they liked."

But came the "day of disaster" when, in a listless semi-final at Portlaoise, Offaly "fopped" completely against Kildare and lost by a margin of four points, which was distinctly flattering to the losers and might well have been a dozen or more.

INTEREST ON THE WANE

So disappointed were Offaly followers that many of them have lost interest in G.A.A. matters. This loss of interest has been made abundantly clear since then by the poor attendances at two S.F. championship fixtures.

At a Tullamore v. St. Patrick's tie played at the rural Cappincur venue, only a handful of spectators turned up, and, to make matters worse, the players gave a very half-hearted performance.

Worse was to happen on the occasion of the next S.F. fixture—a double-feature programme at Tullamore. Here again the attendance was poor, but, to make matters worse, patrons got miserable value for their money, as only one of the games was played and that was of poor quality.

When Cloughan and Edenderry teams took the field for the second game, it was found that the appointed referee was not available to officiate. The official who was nominated by the Co. Board Secretary as an alternative was unacceptable to one of the teams and, consequently, a dead-lock resulted which ended in the whole thing being called off.

NO ADMISSION CHARGE NEXT TIME

The matter was fully discussed at a subsequent meeting of the County Board, and the Chairman, Rev. E.

Vaughan, C.C., strongly criticised "those responsible for causing such great disappointment to supporters of the Association who had travelled long distances and paid to see this match which they did not see.

Consequently, he ruled that the match be refixed for the same venue, and that there would be free admission for all.

He added that in future it would be a strict rule that, where a team failed to agree to a referee, the Co. Board officials would appoint a substitute to act.

CHAMPIONS BY ACCIDENT?

The J.F. team formed from trainees in the Forestry College, Kinnitty Castle, are well in line to take this year's Offaly championship, having recently beaten last year's finalists, Bannagher, by a margin of five points. Comprised of players from several different counties, this very promising team was almost left out of the championship altogether! The application for affiliation having been received late, the team was omitted from the original championship draw and was later admitted with the consent of the other teams participating.

IS THIS A RECORD SCORE?

In a recent Offaly championship game—a semi-final at that—Clara juvenile hurling team defeated St. Conleth's (Daingean) by the well-nigh incredible margin of 72 points (22-6 to nil!). To lend strength to the claim that this constitutes a record, it must be added that the match was called off by the consent of both teams with more than ten minutes of the full hour still to go.

FOR the man who loves the thrills, the glamour, the hurly-burly of "big-time" hurling, the Cork-Wexford senior final is a "must" in his diary for September 23. But for the enthusiast who wishes to see hurling at its artistic best, then the Minor final between Tipperary and Kilkenny is the game to see on All-Ireland day.

Both these teams have given some wonderful displays in the series so far and if they live up to that form, then a battle "royal" is promised for September 23. The Southerners, as holders, will start favourites to retain their title but nothing less than a "best-ever" display will enable them to do so.

The Premier County team have a wonderful tradition in this competition and they have taken the crown twice in the last three years. The present combination is rated even better than those victorious teams and certainly, if their form against Waterford in the Munster final be any criterion, they are going to take a deal of beating. Incidentally, that success over Waterford earned Tipperary their fifth successive Munster title, so you see what I mean when I say they have a wonderful record in minor hurling competitions.

I was very impressed with the display of the front line that day, and they have in Doyle, Maloney, O'Grady and Flynn a quartet of hurlers who would hold their own in any company.

However, they will be meeting foemen worthy of their steel when they encounter Kilkenny, for the Noreiders have proved the "shock" team of the championship so far. Well equipped physically, these Kilkenny boys have speed and hurling ability in plenty, and the quality of the hurling they served up when taking the Leinster title bodes no good for the Tipperary youths in their forthcoming clash.

Starting off with a thrilling one-point win over Dublin, the Noreiders swept to the Leinster title with a clear-cut win over Wexford. They moved even better in their next outing, however, and gained a host of new admirers when ousting Galway by a wide margin.

Star department of the team is the centre-field combination of Buckley and Brennan, who have been turning in repeatedly good displays of late. Dillon, Moran and Ryan form the nucleus of a hard-tackling defence, while Molloy, Cullinane and Whelan are marksmen of the highest calibre.

Against Wexford, however, there was a certain looseness evident in the Leinster team's defence, and if the quick-silver Tipperary forwards can capitalise on this weakness, I think the Blue Riband of minor hurling will remain in the Premier County for another year. Should the Kilkenny rearguard tighten up on their Leinster final display, however, mid-fielders Buckley and Brennan could well lay the foundation for a long-overdue Kilkenny success.

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Wexford Made A Clean Sweep

By J. K. CLARKE

WITH the completion of the Provincial Championships early in August, the way was cleared for the playing of the National semi-finals, which are at present under way, to be followed by the finals, from which several new Irish title-holders must emerge.

The Provincial events were a success, and occasioned a few major surprises, and some new features.

In Leinster, the usual full complement of competitions were staged—six each in hard and soft, in which Wexford made a clean sweep of the four senior events, their star performer 27-year-old John Ryan—taking both singles and sharing the doubles with John Doyle.

Feature was the defeat of Leinster and Irish H.B.S. title holder, A. Clarke, Dublin) by Ryan in the Provincial decider at Ballymore Eustace in a contest in which the Dublin man failed to reproduce his semi-final form against R. Grattan (Kildare). Ryan is thus in line for a crack at the four National crowns, two of which—the soft singles and hard doubles—he already holds, with an excellent chance of taking the lot, and thereby emulating the feat of J. J. Gilmartin (Kilkenny)—the only player in the history of the events to achieve such a distinction.

Louth annexed three of the four junior titles with J. Maher, who figured in all three successes, proving the outstanding player in the grade. Westmeath's F. Wyse and P. Shaughnessy gained the softball doubles, the remaining event.

MINOR TITLES FOR KILKENNY

Kilkenny made a clean sweep of the minor titles, M. Sullivan coming through in three, J. Murray taking the fourth, the S.B. singles. Dublin's K. McHugh, last year's winner of the minor H.B.S., failed to retain the title, although strongly fancied. He represented his county also in the other three events.

Big surprise of the Munster championships was the defeat of provincial senior H.B.S. champion, P. Downey (Kerry) by Dr. D. Dillon (Clare) in the decider. This must be the first occasion on which a player travelled from another country to fulfil fixtures here. Dr. Dillon flew in regularly from Liverpool, where he is at present domiciled.

Clare also won the junior S.B. doubles title. Kerry took the remaining three senior events, and the junior S.B. singles. Tipperary the junior and minor H.B. singles and doubles, and Limerick both minor softball titles, completing a full programme of events.

BEST NEWS OF THE SEASON

Best news of the season comes from Connacht, which Province will be represented this year for the first time in the native ball events, i.e. junior and minor singles and doubles. Mayo, whose nominee, S. Morrin, beat P. McDermott (Roscommon) in the junior singles play-off—the contest, incidentally, being arranged for Crumlin court, Dublin, where both are resident—will represent in both junior H.B. championships. Galways supplying the minors, seemingly by selection, as would appear to be the case, also with Mayo in junior doubles.

It is particularly appropriate that these two counties should be making the start with the native ball, as each gave a world champion in exile to the code in the persons of J. J. Kelly, of Mayo, and the late M. Egan, of Galway, more than 50 years ago.

Mayo will also be representing in senior and junior softball singles and doubles, with Galway doing duty in the two minor softball events.

SIX TITLES WERE EVENLY DIVIDED

R. Connolly, a former Ulster player, now residing in Mayo, will represent in both junior S.B. championships, while Galway have the services of the clever Colleges' champion, G. Cronnelly, who is likely to be doing duty for the Province in all four minor events.

The six Ulster titles—all in softball—have been evenly divided between Cavan, who took both senior events, Tyrone, who won the junior titles, and Monaghan, who supplied the winners in the minor.

There were also two juvenile championships inaugurated for the first time in softball singles and doubles for younger boys.

Now that Connacht has made a start with the native ball, Ulster should "try its hand," as the "cracker," when played, of course, with the proper ball, has a fascination all its own.

From Longford

SEVEN SUSPENDED

AT a recent meeting of Longford minor Co. Board, seven players were suspended under Foreign Games Rule. Two of those suspended assisted the county minor team this year.

* * *

VISITING REF

Camogie is now in full swing in Co. Longford, and the matches are being well patronised. Seven teams are taking part in the League. Longford St. Ita's defeated Killoe in the opening game. The referee for the occasion was Miss T. Davis (Ulster Council), who is visiting her aunt in Killashee. The Football Board decided that each club in the county subscribe £1 to the Camogie Board.

* * *

ON HOLIDAYS

Johnny Lynn and Christy Green, star midfielders on the London County team who have won Provincial honours, were back in their native Mostrim during August on holidays.

* * *

FINAL SOON

Longford's senior football championship final will be played at Pearse Park on Sunday, September 9th. Longford Slashers, winners in 1954, have qualified for the final, and their opponents will be either Ardagh or Colmcille.

* * *

ANNUAL SPORTS

Longford County Board, G.A.A. hold their second annual sports on September 16th. A varied programme has been drafted which caters for all grades. The Board are making every effort to revive athletics in the county.

* * *

HELPED CONVENT

Longford Slashers juvenile team were the winners of the football tournament in conjunction with the Parish Council Carnival. Proceeds went to St. Joseph's Convent School Building Fund.

* * *

INSPECTOR COACHES

Now starring in Longford football is former Mayo star, Liam Hastings. He assists the Slashers Club and also lends a hand at coaching the senior and minor teams. Liam, a Schools' Inspector, lives in Longford.

* * *

WENT ONE BETTER

The Granard School team have captured this year's Longford Schools' League title. Beaten in the final in 1955, they went one better this year. They play lovely football and are a treat to watch. Granard are favourites for the championship title also.

No Resting On Laurels

DROGHEDA Branch of the Gaelic League must be one of the most hard-working units in Ireland. Last September, its President Rev. M. C. Walsh, C.C., SS. Peter's, issued a statement in which he said that the League's activities for that year had been an utter failure and that apart from the committee there were no active members.

Faced with the dismal prospect of starting from scratch, the committee members did not hesitate but enthusiastically commenced to rebuild the branch.

Over thirty members were recruited and an immediate effort was made to re-organise activities on a new-look basis. The first event was on last St. Patrick's night when the Branch presented a first-class bi-lingual revue in the Whitworth Hall. It was a success and the beginning of a series of successes. Next an Aeriocht in St. Dominic's Park for An Tostal not only attracted a big entry but made a profit. Then Feis na Boinne turned out a big success (unfortunately not financially) and put itself back in the leading lineup of Feiseanna.

Now, we hear, there is no resting on laurels. The script for next St. Patrick's night revue has already been written. Committee members Paddy Lynch and John Gregory, are putting the finishing touches to a show which they are sure will be tops and they will commence rehearsals as soon as possible. And the members are just as enthusiastic. The show will be bi-lingual.

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Report from Leinster



A Stimulant

MR. EAMON DELANY, of Laytown, Co. Meath, has presented a valuable cup to the Meath Co. Board for competition in the minor football championship. Thanking Mr. Delany, Rev. Fr. Tully, C.C., chairman of the Board, said that it was a most beautiful trophy and that any team would surely feel proud to win it. It would prove a great stimulant to the young Gaels of the county.

To Africa

BRO. MORRIS of the De La Salle Order has been transferred to East Africa and behind him he leaves a vacant space in the hearts of all Gaels of the Fingal area. A native of Dundalk, Bro. Morris taught in Skerries College for the past few years and proved a great inspiration to the local team. An outstanding player, he helped Skerries win the junior and intermediate championship. He also helped Dublin win the Leins-

ter junior title last year. With him surely goes the good wishes and blessings of all North Dublin Gaels.

Micky Tops Scoring List

WITH a grand total of 27 goals 32 points in 13 games so far this year, Nicky Rackard heads this year's list of scoring feats. Last year Nick was also tops with a total of 20 goals and 31 points in 18 games—an average of five points per game. This year he is away ahead with an average of almost nine points per game so far.

Great Cyclist

OUTSTANDING performance of the day at the recent New Ross sports held at the O'Kennedy Park was the brilliant cycling of Cappelquin man, Tom O'Neill, who in addition to winning the one mile open handicap, the two mile and the five mile scratch open, was also second in the three mile handicap.

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Cork-All-Ireland Champions Nineteen Times

(By "LEESIDER.")

CORK won their first All-Ireland Championship on November 16th, 1890, when an Aghabullogue team, captained by Dan Lane, defeated Castlebridge, Wexford, at Clontarf Park, Dublin. As often happened in those early days of the Association, when, of necessity, organisation had not the same smoothness as to-day, that Cork-Wexford game was never finished. Cork, with the permission of the referee, left the field when leading and were afterwards awarded the title. It was an unsatisfactory victory but it did, nevertheless, open the All-Ireland gates for the Rebel County men and in the years afterwards they added title to title.

1892.—Again in 1892, Cork, this time represented by Redmonds, won the title without the game being finished. After fifty minutes' play Cork were leading Dublin (Faugh-Davitts) by 2-4 to 1-1 when the latter refused to continue, having disputed a Cork goal. Included in this team was the famous Tom Irwin, one of the greatest all-rounders of his time. He was for years Secretary of the Cork County Board before departing to Australia, where his death took place recently.

1893.—Blackrock this time had the honour of representing Cork and they did so with success. They defeated Kilkenny in the All-Ireland final in the Phoenix Park by 6-8 to 0-2. Names like John Murphy, Miah Norberg and the Coughlans were now famous, not alone in Cork but all over Ireland.

1894.—The men from the fishing village were again Cork champions, and with the help of players from St. Finbarrs and Evergreen Nationals, took the All-Ireland title. This time they defeated Dublin (Rapparees) by 6-20 to 2-0. They also set up a record that was to be equalled, by Kilkenny and Tipperary, but never broken, until they themselves smashed even this great achievement of winning three All-Irelands in a row, by their victories in 1941, 1942, 1943, and 1944.

1902.—One of the finest things in G.A.A. history is the story of Jamesy Kelleher and how he formed a team in his native village of Dunggourney in East Cork to capture the county and afterwards the All-Ireland title of 1902. Cork drew with Dublin in the home final at Tipperary but won the replay by 2-6 to 0-1. On September 11th of that year Cork overwhelmed London in the All-Ireland final by 3-13 to 0-0.

1903.—Blackrock were again to the fore, ably led by the great Steve Riordan. In the home final of that year, the Rockies, helped by Willie O'Neill of Sarsfields and Jamesy Kelleher of Dunggourney, among others, defeated Kilkenny at the famous Frahers Field, Dungarvan, by 8-9 to 0-8. London, represented this time by Hibernians, were again in the final but proved no match for the Corkmen, who won yet another All-Ireland title. The game was played at Jones Road and the score was: Cork, 3-6; London, 1-1.

1919.—Kilkenny and Tipperary dominated the scene between 1903 and 1919, in which year Cork, led by "Major" Kennedy of Carrigtwohill, regained the All-Ireland Championship. Beating Limerick and Tipperary in Munster, the Corkmen qualified for the final against Dublin at Croke Park and won on the score 6-4 to 2-4.

1926.—It was seven years before the title came to the Rebel County again. Led by Sean Og Murphy of Blackrock, this was a magnificent Cork team. In the Munster Championship Cork and Tipperary met in Cork, but the crowd was so great that they encroached onto the pitch and the referee had to abandon the

CORK is a county fabled in the annals of the Gaelic Athletic Association and in the history of the nation. Hurling stories are rich with the deeds of Corkmen, for the red and white jerseys of the Rebel County have long graced the playing pitches of Ireland, America, Britain, and even on the plains of Fontenoy too. This article tells you when, where and how Cork won the All-Ireland titles on nineteen occasions between the years 1890-1954.

game. They drew in the replay at Thurles before Cork won at the third attempt, and later outclassed Kilkenny in the All-Ireland final by 4-6 to 2-0. Sean Og Murphy was one of the game's greatest full backs and afterwards an able administrator and Secretary of the Cork County Board. His untimely death a few months ago came as a great shock to Gaels everywhere.

1928.—Defeated by an all-star Dublin side in the previous year, Cork came back to take the title in 1928. Clare were in the limelight in Munster, beating Tipperary in the first round. They then drew with Cork, 2-2 each, and the replay attracted a record crowd of 30,000, Cork winning 6-4 to 2-2. The Leesiders defeated Dublin in the semi-final and trounced Galway, 6-12 to 1-0, in the final at Croke Park.

1929.—Cork's winning reign continued. In Munster they defeated a gallant Waterford side in the championship final. Galway defeated Kilkenny in the All-Ireland semi-final but proved easy prey for Cork in the final, the latter winning by 4-9 to 1-3. Eire Og of Mid Cork were 1928 county champions and the team was captained by Denny Barry Murphy.

1931.—This year saw Cork make a splendid recovery from the heavy defeats suffered in 1930. Under the leadership of Eudie Coughlan of Blackrock, the Rebel County men won the Munster final from Tipperary. Then came the epic All-Ireland final between Cork and Kilkenny. It took three meetings to decide the issue, and eventually Cork won by 5 goals and 8 points to 3 goals and 4 points.

1941.—It took Cork ten years to win another title, though they lost the "thunder" final of 1939 narrowly to Kilkenny. Nineteen forty-one, the year of the "foot and mouth" disease, was a bad year for hurling as many areas, particularly Kilkenny and Tipperary, were badly affected. Included in this Cork team were men destined to win four "All-Irelands" in a row, while Christy Ring gained his first All-Ireland Championship medal that year. Dublin beat Galway narrowly in the semi-final but proved no match for Cork in the final. The score was 5-11 to 0-6. Tipperary sprang a big surprise in the postponed Munster final when they defeated the All-Ireland title holders.

1942.—Cork continued on their winning way, though they had a close call from Limerick, winning by 4-8 to 5-4. They easily defeated Tipperary, and likewise Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final. Dublin were

again the opponents in the final but the Corkmen won 2-14 to 3-4. Making his first appearance in an All-Ireland final was Derry Beckett, who later (1945) won an All-Ireland football medal.

1943.—Cork again won through the stern Munster tests and once more accounted for Galway in the semi-final. Antrim caused a sensation when they beat Kilkenny in the All-Ireland semi-final at Corrigan Park, Belfast. A crowd of 50,000 gave the Northerners a great welcome as they trotted out on to the pitch at Croke Park for the final. They proved no match, however, for Cork, who won by 5-16 to 0-4.

1944.—Cork were again Munster Champions and met Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final at Ennis. Here the Southerners got the fright of their lives and just beat Galway 1-10 to 3-3. Dublin represented Leinster in the All-Ireland final but could not measure up to Cork, who won 2-13 to 1-2. Playing right full-back for Dublin that day was James O'Neill, son of Willie O'Neill, who was a great Cork stalwart in the early 1900's.

1946.—Cork footballers won the premier title in 1945, and the following year the hurlers were back to win their 16th title and give Jack Lynch his sixth successive All-Ireland medal, as he played on the football side the previous year. Some new faces appeared in that year's Cork side, notably the O'Riordans of Blackrock, Paddy Healy of Ballincollig, and Con Murphy of Sarsfields, who later played with Dublin. The All-Ireland final was against the Black and Amber men and the Leesiders came out on top.

1952.—Sarsfields were Cork Champions for the first time, and so Pat Barry had the honour of being the first player from that club to captain a winning Cork All-Ireland side. In a terribly exciting Munster final, Cork defeated age old rivals Tipperary. Dublin won out in Leinster and the stage was set for a Lee-Liffey final, which Cork won by 2-14 to 0-7.

1953.—Cork and Tipperary were in the Munster Final, and again Cork, aided by the brilliance of Christy Ring, won an exciting struggle. Galway surprised Kilkenny in the All-Ireland semi-final, and when the Tribesmen met Cork in the final we saw a hard, robust game which Cork won 3-3 to 0-8. The issue was in doubt until a goal by newcomer Tom O'Sullivan just before the end clinched the win.

1954.—A last minute goal by Pat Barry, after the ball rebounded off Tony Reddan, gave Cork victory in another great struggle. An easy win over Galway followed in the All-Ireland semi-final, and then came the meeting with Wexford. A record attendance of 84,856 turned up for this game, in which Cork fought gamely to come from behind and win by 1-9 to 1-6. As a result of this game Christy Ring collected his eighth All-Ireland medal.

Can he make it nine on September 23rd next?

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